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REV.D SAMUEL PARR, L. L. D.

Autograph.

Jan 26 1823 S Parr Hatton

From an Original Picture in the Possession of the Rev.d John.e Lynes.

Published Jan.y 1. 1828, by John Bohn, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden.

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MEMOIRS

OF THE

LIFE AND WRITINGS

OF

SAMUEL PARR, LL.D.

PREBENDARY OF ST. PAUL'S, CURATE OF HATTON, &c.

BY

JOHN JOHNSTONE, M.D.

FELLOW OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY, AND OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON, &c.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

VOL. I.

263378
16.1.32

LONDON:

PUBLISHED BY JOHN BOHN,

HENRIETTA STREET, COVENT GARDEN.

1829.

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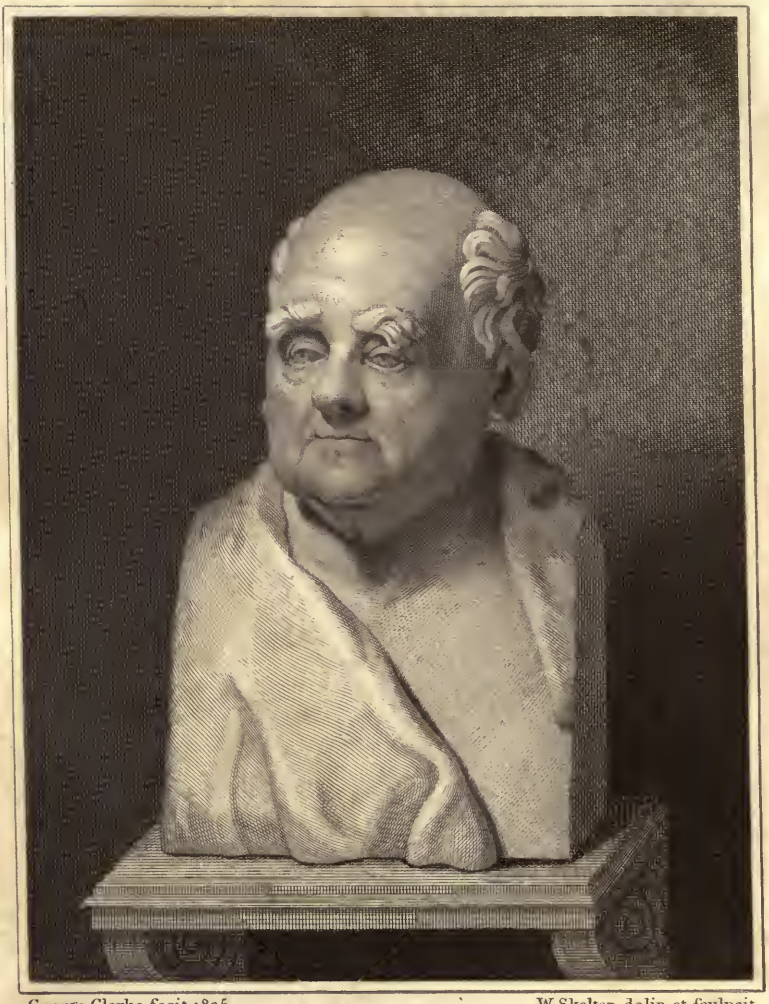

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REV.P SAMUEL PARR, L.L.D.

Autograph.

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Olymp. 1.

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MEMOIRS.

MEMOIRS.

CHAP. I.

From 1746 *to* 1776.

The papers left by the late Rev. Dr. Samuel Parr, and left by him without any limitation to the Rev. John Lynes, may be divided into three classes.

First. Irregular series of narrative, or detailed relations of facts, or scraps; sometimes entering into minute family or personal history, and sometimes enlarging or reasoning upon events connected with them.

Secondly. A collection of letters from himself to the most distinguished persons of the age, and from the most distinguished persons of the age to him, which, if they could be minutely looked over and published in order, would in themselves be an ample history of his life.

Thirdly. A vast mass of critical, metaphysical, historical, political, and theological discussion.

These sources of information are invaluable in establishing the certainty of facts, and in connecting them together from the beginning to the end of Dr. Parr's life—they are invaluable as a history of his friends, and in part, of the literary period in which he lived. Even of the tradition of the times

just before, there are some memorials. There are parts of works which he intended to complete; and, among others, had he fulfilled his intentions in regard to a biographical account of his friend Dr. Robert Sumner, and his acquaintance Dr. Samuel Johnson,* we may fairly conclude, from his pre-eminent learning and intellectual capacity, no works

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* In Bibliotheca Parriana there are two pages of books set apart for Johnson's Life. The materials for the Life of Sumner, in their present unfinished state would fill a large volume.

"In regard to Johnson's Life I shall probably write it some day or other. But I will not begin till I am master of my own time. I shall write it in the spirit of a scholar. Moreover I have not read more than one half of Sir John Hawkins, whose book I met with at Crewe Hall. It was dull and confused, and impertinent, and illiterate, and with all these faults, it some how or other interested me. Well, when these shallow fellows have done writing, I perhaps shall begin to write, and not before."—

Parr to Homer, Nov. 20th, 1788.

Extract of a Letter from Mr. Thomas, George-Street, Editor of the Courier, to Dr. Parr, dated

2, *Thanet Place, Temple Bar,*
Jan. 20, 1797.

DEAR SIR,

The last part of your letter I consider as perfectly confidential—confidential it shall remain with me, I give you my word of honour. What think you of such a paragraph as the following? It would seem to be a piece of intelligence, and would also convey to the world information of your intentions.

The Life of Johnson, such as ought to be written, comprising a profound and critical view of literature for half a century, is still a desideratum in literature. Dr. Parr, we had hoped would have undertaken the task, for we know of no man so well qualified for it, but the Doctor's time is at present occupied, not less usefully certainly, in the education of a select number of young gentlemen in his pleasant retirement near Warwick.

of the kind, would have comprised a larger quantity of interesting and instructive matter.

We have to regret, however, that these intentions were not fulfilled. The materials for the Life of Johnson were compiled only in a selection of books set apart for the purpose in his library, and the Life of Sumner, though it did not die in the conception, was only brought partially to maturity.

Of what Dr. Parr could impart concerning himself, the notices are so ample as to leave little to be desired. In these notices we have him a writer of two Sermons at Norwich, his first avowed publications, in the year 1780; then as Philoleutherus Norfolciensis; then the eloquent advocate of education, with many other displays of his vigorous and matured intellect, down to his posthumous work, the Letter to Dr. Milner.

It is to be lamented, that we find him too often appearing as a controversialist, on questions of a personal nature. Yet even here, HE is redeemed from the general imputation cast on such disputants.

The whole strength of his mind is seen in full display, and he has contrived to deck the page of controversy, with the fairest flowers of learning.

Perhaps Dr. Parr intended to leave the whole of what he wrote for the consideration of certain

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Pray send me word whether the above meets your ideas. I will put it into the Courier without any expence to you.

I am, with respect and gratitude,
your very obliged servant,
T. G. STREET.

learned men who were in his confidence, that the history of everything he did, might be fairly investigated from a vast mass of papers left behind him. But, unhappily, since the death of Mr. John Bartlam, (who from the beginning to the end of his life in 1823, was in his confidence,) no one can give an exact account of his wishes, so contradictory are his directions. He said more than once to Mr. Lynes, who was the depositary of his last verbal directions, "burn them all;" but this occasional order is countermanded by the peremptory written direction to preserve such and such papers—*carefully* to preserve others — to publish some, and among the Sermons several are written out, and many, very many, are bundled together with the express desire that they may be examined by those literary friends, who are finally to determine about printing them.

It seems to have been Dr. Parr's practice never to destroy a paper. When writing for himself, or for others, he made notes, scribbled without arrangement upon sheets or slips which he huddled together with the main work. Now of these notes, the works to which they were intended to belong being removed, it is so difficult to find out the meaning, or the relation, that I fear much valuable matter will be lost. Enough, and more than enough, still exists in these stores, from which to compile the public life of Dr. Parr, and that which is in some measure connected with it, the literary history of the period in which he lived.

But biography is a dry and withered branch of

composition, without a personal knowledge of the inward and living man; and though a stranger after a lapse of years, might be led by admiration of his writings to analyse the distinctive merits of the writer, it is only by conversing with him face to face, that those nice discriminations are made, which constitute the essence of any particular character. Of the number of those who might be properly stationed in the seat of judgment, who could appreciate his piety, his learning, his taste, his genius many still survive; and of his pupils, too, many remain who love and follow their master. Whatsoever may be my ability for executing the task which I have undertaken, I may be permitted at least to declare, that I feel none of the deficiencies, which the ardour of friendship can in any way supply. Although I yield to many of my learned friends in the power of recording and delineating his supremacy in classical accomplishments, in diving with him into the depths of metaphysical subtlety, or soaring to the heights of theological sublimity, yet I can appeal to my own recollection, and my own personal knowledge, for such an account, as shall best display him in those different points of view in which it is most useful to contemplate character—in the full vigour of manhood, and in the hoary holiness of age, at home and abroad, in public and in private, in the hours of business and of conviviality, in the bosom of his family and employed with his pupils, or when he was shewing the force of his understanding in public instruction, or in some of the freaks of his humour, among his familiars.

Had I been to seek from garbled memoirs, from the murmurs of spleen, the effusions of vanity, or the crude and malignant productions of hirelings the documents of biography, I should have shrunk from the task. Far different have been the materials for my account of this man — He was the guide of my youth, and the constant friend of my life. For thirty-five years I have seen him in numberless varieties of our imperfect condition. I have rejoiced with him in prosperity and in health, I have sympathized with him in sickness and in sorrow. We have travelled together the wearisome road of life in narrow circumstances, and in abundance; and throughout our course our confidence was mutual. I feel therefore that I have a right to assume a knowledge of the character of Dr. Parr.

I have learnt something concerning him, likewise, from converse with the companion of his childhoods, and the tried friend of his long life, Dr. Bennet, late Lord Bishop of Cloyne; and from correspondence with the Rev. David Roderick, also his tried friend, who followed him from Harrow to Stanmore, and whose admiration of his talents still continues. Gratefully do I acknowledge the assistance I have received during the composition of these Memoirs, from other learned friends of Dr. Parr, and especially from Archdeacon Butler, the Rev. Dr. Maltby, and the venerable President of Magdalen College, Oxford. The labour of selecting from such a multitude of documents has been truly Herculean, but I have found it neither unpleasing or unsurmountable. For in the life of Dr. Parr, there is

diversity enough to amuse, eminences enough to ascend, and ample shade to repose under; and though the path be occasionally intricate and overgrown, yet far more often does it wind clear and smooth, among the loftiest and choicest productions of the intellect.

Dr. Parr was born at Harrow on the Hill January 15th, O. S. 1747.* He was the son of Samuel Parr, by Anne, the daughter of Elizabeth Bates, of Stamford, Lincolnshire, and Leonard Mignard, who was descended from a French refugee family, and related to Mignard the painter, of whom some account is given by Lord Orford. The Doctor's father was the third and youngest son of the Reverend R.

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* Extract from a Letter from the Rev. Robert Parr to Samuel Parr, then settled at Harrow on the Hill as a Surgeon, dated January 24th, 1740:

"I hear you meet with good encouragement in your way of business. Skill and good success, civil behaviour, and honest dealing, and, above all, the blessing of God, are sufficient to make a man rich and happy too. I hope all these are your portion, and heartily pray that Almighty God will be pleased to bless you here, and especially hereafter."

Another Letter from the same, dated January 7th, 1746, congratulates him on his marriage.

The entry of Parr's baptism in the register at Harrow is as follows:

"Feb. 17th, 1746. Samuel, son of Samuel and Ann Parr, was baptized. Extracted from the Register Book of Harrow on the Hill, Middlesex, 23d March, 1799.

(Signed) WALTER L. WILLIAMS, Vicar."

"It seems," Mr. Williams says, in his letter inclosing this certificate, "Mr. Saunders' Register begins the year, according to the ecclesiastical reckoning at that period, 25th of March, which would render that of your age 1746-7."

Parr, Vicar of Hinckley and Stoke Golding, Leicestershire, and Dorothy Brokesby, daughter of a nonjuring Clergyman in Yorkshire, who in 1715 published the Life of the celebrated Henry Dodwell, and who communicated to Mr. Ray, when he drew up his collection of English Proverbs, a very large catalogue, and a very ingenious interpretation, of old words used in the North of England. Mr. Brokesby his grandfather, was certainly a man of profound erudition. Robert Parr, the Doctor's great uncle, who lived at Hinckley, but had preferment in Warwickshire, was an excellent Greek scholar, and a most orthodox divine. The same praise is due to the Doctor's uncle, Mr. Robert Parr. This last stood high in the esteem of that distinguished scholar, Dr. Snape, once Master of Eton, and afterwards Provost of King's College, Cambridge, was himself a Fellow of that Society, and was presented by it to the Rectories of Horstead and Coltishall in Norfolk, where his literary attainments, his unblemished integrity, and his unfeigned piety, will be long remembered.

The Doctor's father succeeded Leonard Mignard as a Surgeon and Apothecary at Harrow on the Hill, and died there January 23d, 1766, having lost his first and justly beloved wife, Anne, who died November 5th, 1762.

Mr. Parr was distinguished by great professional knowledge, by strong common sense, by a correct taste in the English and Latin languages, by fidelity and activity in his business, by the rectitude of his principles, by a manly and dignified independence of

spirit, and by a noble disregard to the accumulation of wealth.

As the Doctor himself was well known in the world by a steady and disinterested adherence to Whigism, it may be proper to remark that his family, in its various branches, and for several successive generations, were firmly attached to Toryism, both in Church and State.

Parr from his infancy gave manifest indications of his thirst for knowledge, and of his ability to acquire it. At Easter 1752, he was admitted on the foundation of the Free-school raised and endowed by John Lyon at Harrow.* He passed through the

* The following Letter of Dr. Parr's father to a friend, dated Harrow, May 23d, 1760, shews that there was an intention to send him to Eton, which did not succeed. His cousin Francis was soon after admitted at Eton, probably by the same interest.

SIR,

Presuming much on your friendship, I give you this trouble to let you know that I am in some perplexity about my son. I remember you some time ago hinted to me, that you thought I should make him a scholar, and Dr. Thackeray has since more strongly suggested the same, and encouraged me to do it, by saying, he thinks that if the boy is placed in Eton School, at the next election, as the Doctor thinks the boy deserves, he cannot well fail of getting King's, I hope, therefore, you will please to prevail upon Mr. Barnard of Laton, to write to Dr. Barnard at Eton, to desire the Doctor to appoint a day some time in the middle of next month for me to wait upon him with the boy, for his examination and advice, if it is not contrary to the rules of the school (if it is I shall by no means desire it). I beg you will make my compliments acceptable to the ladies, and to afford me your best assistance on my boy's account, and you will greatly oblige, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

SAMUEL PARR.

different classes with great approbation from his teachers, and became the head boy January 1761,* when he had not completed his 14th year. He always spoke with a filial regard and thankfulness of the kind treatment he received from the Rev. Dr. Thackeray, who resigned the Mastership in 1760, died in the succeeding autumn, and to whose memory, or for whose monument, Parr in 1817 wrote an inscription.

While Parr was a boy, he formed a close and lasting friendship with his schoolfellows, the celebrated Sir William Jones and the learned Dr. Bennet, late Bishop of Cloyne. The literary curiosity of the three boys extended far beyond the regular business of the school, and influenced their harmless, and even useful amusements. They assumed the office of sovereigns; they took antient names, with little regard to chronology or geography, and they selected their dominions from the neighbouring fields. Thus Jones was called Euryalus, King of Arcadia; Bennet, Nisus, King of Argos; Parr, Leander, Prince of Abydos and Sestos; and it is probable that these places and these names were suggested to the minds of the young men by forcible impressions made upon them while their imaginations were active, and before their judgments

* There is a most curious document in Parr's summing-book of the death of Thomas Wright, who was drowned February 1760. It appears from this, written in Parr's own hand, that John Cotterell was head, Skeffington second, Wright third, Parr fourth in the school at that time; of course Bennet and Jones were below him.

were mature.* In these fields, which they visited while other boys were intent upon other amusements, they were often engaged in intellectual competition. They acquired the art of logic, and disputed in syllogism; sometimes on subjects of natural history, and sometimes upon metaphysical questions, which were suggested to them by Dacier's translation of Plato's Dialogues.† They displayed

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* It is well known that these three great scholars called each other by the familiar names, Will (Sir W. J.); Bill (Dr. B.); Sam (Dr. P.); and they had also other classical names besides those here enumerated. The following letter from Bennet, calling himself Flaminius, to Parr, is the only one of the sort I have found, and it is the earliest letter in the collection. It is directed to

Mr. Samuel Parr, jun.
(Free, I. Cholmondeley.) at Harrow on the Hill, Middlesex.

Having occasion to put the Monitor in my study, a dispute arose about the volumes, I beg therefore you will ask Theodosius if there are more than three volumes, an appendix, and a book with notes. Now I mention Theodosius you wonder why Vespasian in the inclosed allegory has arraigned him, but it was not unjustly. He attacks our sovereign covertly in the very first paper, "those who aspire to praise by ridicule," &c. &c. the whole character is but too well preserved. Yes, my Lord, inquiry has detected his most trifling faults, and exaggeration sports with his every weakness. How much Theodosius gave up the friend to the scholar, in this paper, you will easily discover, though I think it was his duty to have said with the British writer:

Curst be the thoughts, how well so e'er they flow,
That tend to make one worthy man my foe.

I am, &c. FLAMINIUS.

† About fifteen years ago, when Dr. Parr was then on a visit to Archdeacon Butler, he accompanied him to spend a couple of days at a gentleman's house (Mr. Pemberton of Millichap). He

oratory, such as it was, in lively debates upon the interests of their ideal kingdoms, in triumphant descriptions of their success, and in trials of skill and strength with some of their brave and sturdy schoolfellows.

The Doctor and Sir William Jones wrote tragedies upon some of the stories, by which they had been interested in the course of their reading. They had a custom of attempting to imitate any English writer, by the excellencies of whose style they had been powerfully impressed; and the Doctor has been known to speak with rapture of his endeavours to rival Jones in the short and abrupt sentences of Phalaris's Epistles, and Bennet in the gaudy and captivating diction of Hervey's Meditations. While they excelled in the ordinary exercises of the school in the learned languages, they improved their English style by a diligent perusal of Addison, Johnson, and other elegant authors, whose comparative merits they discussed in conversation, and whose peculiar forms of writing they selected as models for imitation, according to their different judgments. To these early and singular operations of their understandings, may in a great degree be ascribed the eminence which they have since reached in the republic of letters. But for the regularity and the rapidity of their progress in classical learning, they were yet much more indebted

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He found this book in two volumes, and seized it with great delight, and begged to have it as a memorial of his earliest acquaintance with the writings of that illustrious philosopher.

to the instruction of Dr. Robert Sumner, who in 1760 became the successor of Dr. Thackeray, and whose character is beautifully described by Sir William Jones in his Preface to the "Commentaries upon Asiatic Poetry."

It is but doing justice to the late Richard Warburton Lytton, Esq. and Dr. Charles Combe, to notice that they were also the inseparable associates with Jones, Bennet, and Parr, in all their literary pursuits, though far behind them in accomplishments, genius, and talents. With what unremitted eagerness they endeavoured to store their minds with knowledge, appears from this anecdote, authenticated by Mr. Roderick. Jones came one day sobbing to Dr. Sumner, and addressed him, "Sir, my mother has brought a medical gentleman from London to examine my eyes. He says, I must be taken home, because I must not be allowed to look into a book. If I go home, there will be nobody to read to me; but if I am suffered to remain here, I give you my word, that I will not read myself, but can come into the school to hear the lessons done, and Parr, Bennet, &c. &c. can read to me in the evenings."

It was the happier lot of Sir William Jones and Bishop Bennet to remain for several years under the care of Dr. Sumner. Parr enjoyed this advantage only from the summer of 1760, to the spring of 1761, after which he was removed from school, and employed in the business of his father. But the progress which he had made in the writings of antiquity, and the habits which he had formed for

the cultivation of his mind, enabled him to continue his studies with unwearied industry and with increasing effect.

Of Parr's childhood, his only sister, Mrs. Bowyear, wrote the following account to Mr. Lynes, at my desire. I shall divide it into two parts, that I may bring it into historical order as to time.

"My brother might be styled slovenly in his dress. I do not recollect that he entered much into the usual sports of boys: he was from childhood of a studious turn of mind, but with me he was playful, though, I must confess, at times, rather obstreperous, as he would approach me with clenched fists, though in perfect good-humour. Indeed, he was for many years a kind, affectionate brother, and anxious for my welfare and happiness. His earliest study, and longest cherished delight, next to Mother Goose, was the History of the Seven Champions of Christendom.* From the age of nine or

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* I do not know what Mr. Brougham will say to this, but Parr's fondness for such books, and recommendation of them to children, lasted to the end of his life. He coincided however, with that illustrious man in the opinion, that books of art and science ought to be placed also in the hands of the uninstructed. The following books he gave to my children in 1820, and I copy the list, as it contains the library he recommended to children of about seven or eight years of age:

An Epitome of Modern Geography, by William Pinnock.
Ditto Ancient, by ditto.
Ditto Astronomy, by G. Roberts.
Catechism of Mythology, by C. Irving.
Sovereigns of England.
History of England.

ten he evinced a strong inclination for the clerical profession; insomuch, that he was accustomed, when our cousins from Eton were with us during their vacations (they, together with myself, forming the congregation), to read the Church Service (after the due tolling of a bell tied to the banisters by those who officiated as clerk), and sometimes he preached, and we youngsters often thought him prolix enough. He made one sermon for Christmas-day (when under twelve years of age), which was shewn to the vicar of Harrow, who said it was so good and appropriate a composition, that no clergyman need have been ashamed to deliver it. He substituted for a surplice a shirt of my father's, taken from the press. This reaching the ears of Mr. Saunders, the vicar, he had a gown and cassock made for him, with which my brother was highly delighted. So enwrapped was he in his pre-

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Catechism of Grecian Antiquities, by C. Irving.
Ditto Grecian History, by W. Pinnock.
Ditto Roman Antiquities, by C. Irving.
Ditto Jewish ditto, by ditto.
Ditto Modern History, by W. Pinnock.
Ditto Chronology, by ditto.
Ditto Heraldry, by G. Roberts.
Ditto Agriculture.
Ditto Navigation, by W. Pinnock.
Elements of Punctuation, by ditto.

At Shrewsbury, the year before he died, he bought a great collection of these books, Tom Hickathrift, Red Riding Hood, &c. (says Archdeacon Butler), to the great delight of myself, the amusement of my boys, and the overwhelming astonishment of a bookseller.

dilection, as even (notwithstanding my father's remonstrances) to persist in reading the Burial Service over dead birds, kittens, &c. Another of his amusements was bell-ringing. With a set of his schoolfellows he frequently assembled to ring a peal, and he was proud of being able to raise the tenor,* which the joint efforts of two of his companions were unable to effect. He was likewise fond of exhibiting his strength, to the great horror of my father, in the strange exploit of knocking down oxen in the slaughter-house. But he was, nevertheless, remarkably attached to animals; and seldom from his childhood read in comfort without a pet cat seated on his table. The only battle I recollect hearing of his fighting throughout his school-boy days, was with Lord Mountstuart, in defence of a worried cat. His attachments of all kinds were very strong. His earliest favourite was his cousin, Tom Parr, who died early; and to him succeeded Frank Parr, Tom's brother, who was captain† of Eton School before he was fifteen years of age, and who also died early. They were younger brothers of Mr. Parr, of Norwich. He always assumed authority among his playmates at home, making his cousins call him uncle. He was, I think, between twelve and thirteen, when, together with Sir William Jones and Dr. Bennet (Bishop of Cloyne), he wrote and acted a play; whether tragedy or comedy, I do not recollect. It was performed in our parlour. The theatre

* He raised the tenor, and every other bell, in the steeple of St. Chad's, Shrewsbury, in 1804.

† This is a mistake.

was not very spacious, but it was thronged, and the youthful trio were much applauded. When I spoke of recollecting the turbans and flowing robes worn by the characters in the play that was represented in my father's parlour, I forgot to say there was a female character in it, which was personated by Dr. Bennet, who must have been very small for his age, for he wore my best shoes, and burst them, to my sorrow. Sam was the darling of his mother; and her death (which happened in 1762) was severely and lastingly felt. She was indeed but too indulgent to him; every wish and whim was attended to, and his appetite so consulted, as to have hot meat suppers prepared for him from early childhood. I remember, when he was lying under the heavy attack of small-pox, that left its marks upon him till death, in the first note he wrote to me, on recovering sight from a blindness of three weeks, his expressing extreme pleasure in the assurance he felt, that if the disease were to reach me, I should not suffer as he was suffering, because I had not been indulged in hot suppers. Before this seizure, in about his twelfth year, he was very fair and regular-featured. I recollect well, on my being taken down to him (he was nursed in a distant part of the village), my feeling, in the midst of my joy, at seeing him getting better, something akin to satisfaction, on finding that the prettiness which had attracted so much notice was completely spoiled. A little time previous to my mother's death, Dr. Thackeray resigned the Mastership of Harrow School, of which my brother was captain (about thirteen years of

age), and he finished his school education under Dr. Sumner. The Doctor was very partial to him, had the highest opinion of his abilities, and always said that Parr would wear lawn sleeves. In a little more than a twelvemonth after my mother's death, my father married a Miss Cox, whose father was formerly Master of Harrow School. This marriage was the source of great uneasiness to him and his children; and home became unbearable to my brother. My father was very desirous that he should be of his profession; but, after a short trial, my brother could not be reconciled either to surgery or physic, and Dr. Sumner strongly urged my father not to oppose his adopting the profession he was best fitted for. At length, a reluctant consent was given; but it being (at the instigation of our step-mother) proposed that he should be entered at Cambridge as a sizar, my brother declared that he would give up all thoughts of the University, rather than go in a subordinate situation."

Such is Mrs. Bowyear's account; delivered, it is true, after an interval of more than sixty years, yet with the clear and vivid recollections of early youth, and of the scenes and events *then* interesting to her. Most of Parr's singularities are traceable to his father's fireside. His mother was a woman of many household virtues; she was the servant of her husband and son; waited upon them in that capacity, and pampered them with dainties, bringing him up with many of those eccentricities which through life pervaded his character. His father was a firm, sturdy, intelligent, and observing man; the

petty tyrant of his fireside, but an honest, well-meaning Tory. The son was opinionative, testy, assuming, but full of truth and integrity, and so eager for the acquisition of knowledge, that his appetite for learning was never sated. His person bore the marks of his character; stiff and strong, singular and commanding. His countenance, before the small-pox, so handsome, that his own sister declares her complacency at finding that the small-pox had destroyed his beauty.

It does not appear that he was a boy of frolic or gaiety in his early years. Dr. Gabriel tells an anecdote in one of his letters, from the personal authority of Dr. Allen, who saw Parr when a boy of nine years, sitting on the churchyard gate at Harrow, looking grave and serious, whilst his schoolfellows were playing about. "Sam, why do you not play with the others?" cried Allen. Parr looked at him with seriousness and earnestness, and in a solemn tone replied, "Do not you know, Sir, that I am to be a parson?" His amusements with Bennet and Jones soon after this period, were, to act great personages, to harangue and declaim, and to compose plays. They seldom played the common games of the School. Yet the only remaining juvenile performance of Bennet proves that he and Jones joined the rest of the boys in some of their active frolics. This performance, called "Pugna Maxima," alludes to a battle fought in December 1757 between the boys at Hawkins's, "where I boarded," says Bennet "and those of Thackeray, who attacked our house and school-room to get some fireworks."

It would no doubt be a source of delight to the surviving Harrow heroes, if they were to read the exploits of their childhood, sung on the very scene of action, in heroic verse. Murray is the hero. Parr's name is not included in the battle, perhaps, because he was not a boarder; but there are other names of high renown. The Duke of Gordon, Middleton, Thwaites, Rawlinson, Bennet, Jones, Tuffnel, West, Earl, Norton, Wilmot, Rosse, Cranston, Lord William Gordon, Brudenell, Cotton, Earl of Barrymore, and perhaps every other boy who boarded, is enumerated. The work extends to some hundred lines; a most exact imitation of Pope's Homer, and no unworthy rival, either in harmony, or spirit of composition. I regret that the whole cannot be published. The following are specimens:

"There, where but one could stand, from danger far,
A neutral chief surveyed the shifting war:
Richard Lord B....., of Irish race;
Strong were his limbs, and manly was his face,
But dull his mind to honour's fairest charms,
His spirit mean, and small his skill in arms."

Again:

"Farran his fate by Bennet's bludgeon found,
And Seward fell extended on the ground;
But e'en in victory Murray's arm we fear,
And shun to meet him in the walls of war;
As when the Giants on Olympus' height,
With Neptune, Mars, and Phœbus dared the fight,
The inferior Gods with ease from heaven they drove,
But shrunk themselves before the arm of Jove."

Among the friends of his childhood Richard Archdale must not be forgotten. Archdale is characterised by the Bishop of Cloyne "as one of the finest geniuses, Harrow, England, or Europe can claim;" and there is much interesting correspondence with him. In one of his early letters, dated Aldersgate-street, 29th August 1764, he describes wretched feelings from family concerns, but alludes to the death of Thomas Parr, and as it proves his strong attachment to our friend, I insert it. In another letter, he tells of his acquaintance with Goldsmith and with Johnson in the Temple, and sends a portion of the poem of "The Traveller," which Goldsmith had read to him, and which he was about to publish.

DEAR SAM, *Aldersgate-street, 29th Aug.* 1764.

I rather merit your pity than resentment on account of my silence, for I believe it would be difficult to alleviate, and impossible to increase my misery. Solitude and reflection are my only companions, while the remembrance of what I once was, and the knowledge of what I now am, drive me almost to distraction. In your company I was happy; in your company enjoyed all that pleasure which friendship and Parr could give, and which sincerity and Archdale could receive. (Here follow some family affairs.) The death of Thomas Parr I very heartily regret, who, as he deserved your friendship, must claim my condolence. Give my love to Page, &c. and be assured that among the many friends your merit claims, there are none who can love and esteem you more than, dear Sam,

Your unhappy friend, R. ARCHDALE.

Henry Hetley became acquainted with Parr on his first visit at Cambridge, where he was introduced to Bennet, and by him to Jones. His sweetness of

temper, and accomplishments of mind, endeared him to the trio. He was Parr's *adviser* at College, and through life, and continued his friend to the latest period of it. I am happy to say, this venerable ecclesiastic still survives: he was tutor to Lord Herbert at Cambridge, and was preferred by the Pembroke family.

Nathaniel Brassey Halhed was another of Parr's schoolfellows, or pupils, while at Harrow. I shall quote some of his letters, and also some of Walter Pollard and Fortescue, and other of his juvenile friends, should there be space enough, in the Appendix.

Of the gravity and seriousness of his character, the following letter, written (when he was taken from school to be placed in his father's shop) to his friend Thomas Fortescue,* is a proof, and also that he had become a politician.

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* Of this young gentleman there is the following notice, in a small edition of Milton's Paradise Lost: "This book was given to Dr. Parr by his schoolfellow Thomas Fortescue, cousin to the Marquis of Wellesley. Some of the speeches were marked by Mr. Thomas Sheridan, father of Mr. Richard Sheridan." In Dr. Parr's own hand is written: "The name of Thomas Fortescue is yet more endeared to me by the merits of his illustrious cousin, the Marquis Wellington. S. Parr." "I give this highly valued book to my most respected friend Dr. John Johnstone. I know that when he reads what I have written in it, he will set no common value upon it, and I entreat him to leave it with particular directions for it to be preserved by the person to whom he chooses to bequeath it. S. Parr, April 29th, 1814."

DEAR FRIEND,

The receipt of your letter was attended with no small satisfaction, as it seemed to discover your real sentiments. Our patriot, by dint of argument, and allowed superiority in political knowledge, has, beyond all reasonable confutation, proved that the continuance of our troops in Germany engaged the attention of the French that way; so that they neglected the safety of their foreign settlements, and consequently rendered their reduction easier, and our conquests more numerous. I look upon Barry as an ignorant courtier, a violent speaker, and an interested partizan. "Nec verò audiendi (says Cicero) qui graviter irascendum in inimicos existiment, idque magnanimi et fortis viri esse censeant. Nihil enim laudabilius, nihil magno et præclaro viro dignius placabilitate atque clementia. Omnis autem animadversio et castigatio, contumeliâ vacare debet, neque ad ejus qui reprehendit aliquem, aut verbis castigat, sed ad reipublicæ utilitatem referri." What can be a mark of greater impudence than to cast a slur on the proceedings of a Prince, whom this nation has found happy in the choice of able Ministers and experienced officers, and whose whole conduct his subjects approved and his enemies dreaded? Mr. Pitt, in the opinion of every impartial, considerate, and honest gentleman, is esteemed as a patriot, unbiassed by interest, uninfluenced by party, indifferent of his own glory, and consequently undeserving of that imputation too generally merited in his department. The applause of these, and of the public, are sufficient to prove, that his conduct was consistent with justice, the honour of his King, and the safety of the republic. The tenor of his actions seemed to have little respect to the increase of his own honour and fortune. More might be urged; in short, he has executed faithfully his duty in every particular that Cicero recommends as incumbent on a magistrate. His modesty makes him superior to this great example of patriotism, who publicly professed himself the defender and sole preserver of the commonwealth, and demanded the honour due to him. I feel an excessive joy, when I find you restraining your liberty within bounds, which I feared would lead you to the indulgence of your appetites. "Quam multa (says Seneca) ebrii faciunt, quibus sobrii erubescunt; non est animus in suâ potestate, ab

ebrietate devinctus: onerati vino, ut cibum et potum, sic secretum non continent, quod suum alienumque est, pariter effundunt. Nihil aliud est quam voluntaria insania, et brevis furor," &c. Besides, your fortune exposes you to the allurements of debauchees and of sycophants, who are ever ready to lead the unwary youth into perdition, and deprive him of his envied innocence. Avoid these sycophants, these corrupters of youth, as the slaves of sin and ambassadors of Satan—more destructive to listen to than the sirens that lead the pilot astonished with their melody to ruin—more dangerous to follow than the earth-born meteors that draw the deluded traveller out of his way, into bogs and unknown ways and precipices, whence he cannot escape. Ratione duce, per totam vitam eundum est.——Omnes animi perturbationes, rationem repellentes nullum beatæ vitæ locum relinquunt, &c. As I think myself obliged by the ties of friendship, as well as by the laws of nature, the dictates of reason, and commands of my *conscience*, to correct your failings, I look upon myself as less liable to the censures of a luxuriant, pardonable in your sight, and most laudable in the eyes of the considerate. It is my earnest desire that you would keep this letter safe, and preserve it as a remedy in all trials and temptations. This will prove Parr not deficient in his advice as a friend, and may perhaps be of service to you. Et nihil pro omnibus meis beneficiis, nisi hujus literæ, et admonitus memoriam postulo, quæ dum est animo infusa, me fidelem esse ostendet.

I wish you the compliments of the season, which you will not only improve in the fruition of innocent pleasures, but in contemplating and giving thanks for that stupendous, undeserved instance of divine love, you are at this time called upon to commemorate. That you may live happy in this life, and enjoy the blessings of a future one; that you may overcome all the temptations in this life and enjoy its blessings, is the earnest wish of, dear Thomas, &c. &c. &c.

There are other letters about this period to certain of his young friends; but this is sufficient to prove the piety and gravity of Parr's frame of mind,

and that he had already acquired the didactic tone which accompanied the whole of his existence. Indeed, Bishop Bennet informed me, that he was always the same person throughout. As a boy at school, a youth at college, and a man of the world, he always bore the same ascendency over his fellows.

Of his juvenile compositions, several Sermons, and the Drama of Esther, are preserved; on the paper inclosing this drama is the following notice: "Written by Dr. Parr, when he was 16 years old, at Harrow."

This composition seems not to have been revised; it is written on thirty pages of copy-book, 4to, in many places illegibly. The persons of the drama are, Ahasuerus, Esther, Haman, Mordecai, Carsnia, Haruman, the Priests, the Council; and the plot and conduct of the play are the exact history of the event. Haman enters triumphant, uses the absolute will of his master to his own cruel purposes, and obtains the order for the destruction of the Jews. The Priests of the Jews supplicate Heaven for the salvation of their nation, and I shall copy the scene in which they are introduced, as a specimen of the composition. The drama is unfinished; but Esther's beauty has its proper influence, Ahasuerus relents, is convinced by the Queen, the Jews triumph, and Haman is destroyed.

SCENE THE SECOND.

1*st Priest*. Ye sacred bands of Israel, ye sons
Elect of Heaven, prepare the hymn of praise,
The tribute of thanksgiving and of joy.

2d Priest. Lo! Light, the glorious daughter of the skies,
Dawns from the East; amazed at her approach
See darkness trembles, see the glimmering stars
Now pale, now vanished from the gazing sight.
Aurora, herald of the rising morn,
Casts a red lustre o'er the blushing sky,
Whilst from the womb of night the day bursts forth,
And steals their brightness from the setting stars.

3d Priest. The merry lark, shrill harbinger of morn,
Attunes her voice; the choristers of air,
The feathered tenants of the grove awake,
And hail with sweet accord the coming day.

1st Priest. Arise, ye sons of piety, arise!
With grateful hearts, with cheerful tongues prepare,
And drink devotion at the font of Heaven.

High Priest. To thee, o God! who art enthroned on high,
Extended over all, who rulest above,
And governest below, to thee we sing.

3d Priest. With reverence our affections guide, with love
Our hearts inspire, replenish, and inflame.

1st Priest. Whilst Chaos stretched her vast, her dreary reign,
Whilst horror, darkness, and confusion spread
Hateful dominion o'er the mass of things,
Thou was't beginning from eternity.
When after the long revolution
Of time, it pleased thy will to fix, to give
Shape to this earth, and being unto man,
At thy omnific voice the task was done,
By thy Almighty hand the world was made;
At thy call nature rose—the universe
Shot into form, then rudeness order grew,
Light sprang from darkness, man from nothing came.

2d Priest. Faithful to thy command, the King of day
Performs his wonted course, collects his beams,
Imparts his genial influence, and rides
Triumphant on the bosom of the air.
By thy appointment the Sidereal host
With various spangles deck the firmament,
And light the æther in a vivid glow.

The moon in silent majesty ascends
To cheer with silver rays the gloomy night.
The zephyrs softly murmur, gently blow;
From thee the lightning's subtle flame imbibe
Swiftness to fly, commission to destroy.

3d Priest. The lion, hardy tyrant of the wood;
The steed, proud monarch of the lawn; the beasts,
That guard the forest or possess the fields,
Ask thy protection, and confess thy sway.
Man he created sovereign of the earth,
The heir of Heaven, image of perfection,
The Lord of reason, his peculiar care,
His choicest favourite, his highest work.
These qualities let man improve, let man
These blessings value, and presume to know
His excellence, his duties, and his God.

High Priest. In these survey omnipotence; in these
See Him, whose boundless spirit all pervades,
Whose unremitting energy moves all,
And harmony preserves; who, great and good,
Combines the parts and regulates the whole.
Let man, in wonder lost, with transport fired,
Adore the Deity, adore the hand
Which first this complex system caused,
First this stupendous flame produced, impels,
For ever permeates, and for ever guides.
Ye sons of Israel! the Lord proclaim,
Declare his goodness, and exalt his name.

1st Priest. Maker of all that was, is, or will be!
Parent of being, source of happiness!
From thee we draw our origin; to thee
We owe our preservation and our bliss.
Look down, celestial parent, and infuse
Devotion in our breasts; to watch our steps
Continue, and vouchsafe to hear our prayers.

Chorus. Ye sons of Israel, the Lord proclaim,
Declare his goodness and exalt his name.

The interval between the summer of 1761, when

he left school, and May 1765, when he was entered a Sizar at Emanuel College, Cambridge, was spent in his father's business. In the midst of duties thus imposed, he read the best authors in Greek and Latin. He applied himself most earnestly to those philological inquiries which afterwards occupied so large a portion of his time. He indulged the fondness which he had very early felt for metaphysical investigation. He frequently wrote upon classical subjects, both in verse and prose. He improved his talents for English composition by two series of moral essays, in which his style was gradually formed into that resemblance, which it has since preserved, to the energy of Johnson's language, and the harmony of his periods.

Observing the ardour of his son's spirit, and the vigour of his understanding, the father, after instructing him in the elementary parts of medicine, for some time meant to place him in the shop of Mr. Truedale, of London, where his experience would have been extensive; and sometimes he permitted the young man to indulge the expectation of prosecuting his studies upon a more enlarged scale, in one of the Scotch Universities. But Parr was never reconciled to any class of the medical profession.

Mr. Roderick assures me that some of the habits then formed, as preparatory to his professional pursuits, such, for instance, as his fondness for inspecting the slaughter and dissection of animals, continued when he was Assistant at Harrow, and Master at Stanmore. But this fondness did not originate in any desire to acquire anatomical knowledge. His

pleasure, Mr. Roderick thinks, was founded on the gratification of seeing a ferocious animal fall a victim to the dexterity of the slayer. Whatsoever were his motive, pleasure or science, it certainly had ceased to operate when he resided in Warwickshire; metaphysics then had driven physics quite out of doors, but he ever after entertained a respect and admiration for the medical profession, and has frequently expressed these feelings in different parts of his published writings.

It was perhaps unhappy for the honour of the art, and for the benefit of mankind, that he was not one of its professors; supported as that art ought to be, by profound learning and exquisite sagacity. A popular practitioner I can hardly conceive he would have been; for though to affliction he was always kind, yet in his expressions he was not always tender. In some of his moods, his appearance would have been terrible to nervous ladies; and his feelings were often too intense, to authorize the supposition that they could always have been restrained before the patient. He had not courage enough for a physician, and too little coolness of mind for a surgeon. It was his better taste, or his happier lot, to choose theology as his profession. His love of ecclesiastical pomp, and his gravity of temper and unfeigned piety, and fondness for holy things, even in his youth, superseded all voluntary pursuits; so that his father was at length induced to enter him at Emanuel College, Cambridge, in the summer of 1765. He began his academical residence in the autumn of that year, and had the good for-

tune to be placed under the tuition of the Rev. Mr. Hubbard, and the Rev. Mr. Farmer. He was admitted a Sizar, but when he went to reside became a Pensioner.

During his continuance at Cambridge, his spirits were lively and his temper most social; but his companions were few, and his pleasures were innocent. His application was incessant, and his obedience to the established discipline of his college was most exemplary. The force of his mind was chiefly directed to classical and philological reading; yet he had at the same time formed the most serious determination to prepare himself for his degree, and he secretly aspired to a high place in those academical honours, which are bestowed upon great proficiency in mathematical knowledge.

The only letter of his father to him in the collection, points out the way for his return from the University, in December 1765; and shortly after, he went home.

He had scarcely passed a month at Harrow, on his return from college, when his father died. He had lost his own mother three years before. His father had married again; and it is not improbable that Parr's expressions of dislike to the novercal administration, had induced his father to bear the expence of sending him to college. It happened that he was at a play at Drury-lane, with his friend and schoolfellow Mr. Mee, when his father was struck with apoplexy, in January 1766. That he was cast down both by the loss of his father and his fortune, which appears to have been too largely

bestowed on his step-mother, is proved by the following letter from his friend Bennet, afterwards Bishop of Cloyne.

To Mr. Samuel Parr, Harrow on the Hill, Middlesex.

Emanuel College, Cambridge, March 9, 1766.

DEAR PARR,

With little to command your attention, and less to divert your melancholy, I once more interrupt the misfortunes I participate, and recal the ideas that I wish were forgot. February past, March departing, without either knowledge of your present situation, or plan of your future life, must kindle impatience, and awaken friendship, I buried in mathematics, tormented with *morality*, forsaken by my living classics, and shut up from my dead ones, must find my situation far from satisfactory; but the uncertainty of yours makes me forget my own. I can overlook my troubles, if you are happy; or sink amidst them, if you are unfortunate.

We begin to expect you in College; but if the complication of affairs demands your presence, can give leave till the middle of April; by which time you will perhaps be as necessary, as advantageous to Cambridge. The influence of Wright's advice, exhortation, and example in debauchery, may perhaps be strong enough to dazzle one, whom I am too sorry to behold in guilt, and too weak to preserve from it. You are wanted to defend modesty from ridicule, and innocence from guilt; to guard Lane from unmerited insult, and Quin from unmerited ruin. For the amiable softness, the winning elegance of the latter, I have conceived a regard, warm as a series of years could make it. In my short acquaintance (I had almost called it friendship) with Quin, I have discerned in him qualities that will follow the weakest hand which bends them to vice, or deepens them in virtue. I have regard enough to pity, attention enough to observe, but not fortitude enough to assist him. At present he is in the very acme of vice, with all her beauty displayed, and all her deformity concealed; the moment is hastening, nay perhaps has already passed, that has settled him in virtue, or marked him with infamy, while I pity, condemn, but pardon his infatuation, and fear lest the man who is now above my praise, should too soon fall below my contempt.

Mar. 17.—Since I finished this I received your two letters, the last of which awakened equal surprise and concern. Detestation at Mrs. Parr's rapacity, and pity for your loss, remain equally importunate and strong in my mind, but you have still sufficient for all the necessaries, all the pleasures of life; and the woman who has seized your fortune without right, will enjoy it without satisfaction. My next letter, which may perhaps reach you as soon as this, will discuss these points more fully; at present, my friendship for Archdale calls on me immediately to mention him. He informs me, in a letter (whose elegance I can only say is worthy of him), that he shall come to .....; and as men, as friends, as scholars, it is our interest that he should not. At a College, where dissipation is encouraged, and learning ridiculed, his inclinations for improvement will be damped, for vice increased. I must be more concise than I should chuse. If this scheme is Sumner's, make bold to shew the mistake; if a superior's, we must, I fear, acquiesce. Yet even to him it may be told, that does he desire Archdale's pecuniary advantage, Trinity; if his literary, Emanuel is the College. We lose him for ever if this scheme is pursued. The same hand which (certain intelligence informs me) has corrupted Quin, will ruin him. For once, then, put on the man of the world; plead, threat, convince, it is yours by letter or words to know more of this affair; to give him hopes and wishes is all in the power of your sincere friend,

WILLIAM BENNET.

I would not have it known that I interest myself in this affair, for particular reasons.

Parr resided at Emanuel the whole of the year 1766, under the tuition of Mr. Hubbard * and Mr. Farmer,† for both of whom he expressed the most

* Hubbard published one Sermon for the Widows and Orphans of the Sussex Clergy, which was much and justly admired, says Parr. B. P. He was a jacobite and a smoaker.

† Mr. Farmer was the celebrated commentator and black-letter collector, and finally Canon Residentiary of St. Paul's. Some of his letters will be published.

profound respect, as men of letters and of virtue. It has already been noted how he spent his time at college; but it will appear hereafter that his respect for Mr. Farmer was damped by unkindness, and that it was with difficulty he was persuaded from pouring forth the bitterness of his wrath upon a man who neglected* and endeavoured to degrade him. He became dissatisfied; he thought himself poor, and accepted without unwillingness† Dr.

* "Farmer neglected all mankind," says Archdeacon Butler, in a remark on this passage. "He was a man of such singular indolence, as to neglect the usual duties of his office as Tutor of a College, in sending in the young men's accounts, and is supposed to have burnt large sums of money by putting into the fire, unopened, letters which contained remittances, accompanied by remonstrances, and requiring answers."

† From the Rev. Dr. Sumner, Master of Harrow School, to Mr. Samuel Parr, Emanuel College, Cambridge, dated Harrow, November 10, 1766.

DEAR SIR,

Mr. Holmes has this morning acquainted me with his design of leaving Harrow next Christmas; I immediately determined to mention the vacancy to you, and offer you the employment.

If this appears worth your acceptance, I shall heartily wish to see you for an hour or two, that we may consider how far it will be practicable to reconcile this scheme with your design of taking your degrees. As I do not know whether you are acquainted or not with the terms, I will mention them.

The salary I pay Mr. Holmes is £50 *per annum;* what profits may arise from pupils I cannot fix with any certainty. Mr. Holmes I understand receives £40 or £50 from them, and if you think proper to succeed him, I hope it is needless to say I shall do every thing in my power to make your situation here respectable and profitable. Let me have your answer as soon as you can determine; if this proposal should interfere with any other views you may have, I have reasons to wish you

Sumner's kind offer of the office of first assistant in Harrow School. During the negotiation, and perhaps even immediately after the offer of Dr. Sumner, his views were changed, and he hoped to hasten the progress of his academical degrees by becoming a Fellow Commoner of Emanuel; for a Fellow Commoner he certainly designed to be, as the following letter of the Bishop of Cloyne will prove:

DEAR PARR, *Emanuel College, Dec.* 1, 1766.

As this letter has the same subject as your last, it requires the same apology, I will descend therefore directly to business; after promising that, though the troublesome employment of doing nothing has made me so idle that I am two letters in your debt, my heart was all the time at Harrow, and I thought not the less warmly on Parr and friendship.

I have acquainted Mr. Farmer of your design of becoming Fellow Commoner, and he is busy in making a calculation, which he intends to give me in a few days, and which I will bring with me to Harrow, where I hope to be for a day or two at Christmas. I have a notion that you pay some trifle for a room whether you are real or nominal possessor, but Farmer will certify me of this. The reason you have had no bill for some time is, because, in character of your agent, I paid for your bill in the June quarter, and carried it to your account, and have just got that for Michaelmas, which I propose discharging as soon as my own quarterage is due. I will forward the bills with Mr. Hubbard's receipt in full, or bring them myself, as you chuse. You will see by the inclosed state of the accounts, and the considerable balance in your favour, that I can perform this office with ease and advantage to us both. Your goods have been sold by my leave, and Mr. Hubbard's order; you will find the sum on the side of debtor. No one congratulates the happiness of

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would not speak of it. Contrive to let me see you at Harrow, for I have many things, that we may settle in conversation, which it is impossible to explain in a letter. I am, dear Sir,

Your obedient humble servant,

Mr. Parr. R. SUMNER.

your situation more warmly than Bennet, because no one shares it more sincerely. Yet I cannot cease praising my own knowledge, when I so often told you that you would be rewarded for your former sufferings. For my own part, I am generally contented, and therefore, generally happy; and as hope points out something which invites me to a fresh pursuit, I scorn to leave the chase for a few casual disappointments. From your Latin letters (or rather from as much of your Latin letters as I could read) I received great pleasure. I am with compliments to Mr. and Mrs. Sumner, yours sincerely and affectionately,

WILLIAM BENNET.

Sparrow desires his compliments, and wrote the sentence himself. Hetley * has been ill, but is better.

He did not become a Fellow Commoner of Emanuel; but from January 1767, having accepted the place of Assistant in Harrow School, for five years he sustained the office with the highest credit to himself, and the greatest satisfaction to his employers. In Dr. Sumner he found a wise counsellor, a zealous protector, and a most faithful and affectionate friend. In his associates, the Rev. Mr. David Roderick and Mr. Wadeson, kind, learned, and faithful friends. His own great powers were duly honoured and acknowledged by Mr. Saunders, Vicar of Harrow, Mr. Williams of Pinner, and all those around him who were capable of appreciating them. He was constantly and usefully engaged; and it is not difficult to believe that, without care and without anxiety, and with full employment, this must have been one of the happiest periods of his life.

On Christmas Day, 1769,† Parr was ordained

* Now living, Prebendary of Sarum.

† The following letter shews that his ordination was at last sudden. It is from his friend the Rev. David Roderick.

Deacon at Fulham, by Dr. Terrick, Bishop of London. His title was the Curacies of Willsden and Kingsbury, Middlesex, where the Rev. Moses White, Minor Canon of St. Paul's and Chaplain of Bridewell Hospital, was the incumbent. He continued diligently attending to the duties of his School and his Curacies till March 1770, when his happiness

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REV. SIR, *Queen's College, Oxon.*

I heartily congratulate you on your admission into orders, that principal object of your wishes and completion of all your happiness. I cannot possibly conjecture what unexpected revolution in your affairs brought about this important event. In general I can give as much credit to you as any person I am acquainted with; but your declarations against preaching were circumstances in which I always suspected your veracity. You have begun betimes to hold forth; the very day you were ordained. I took the degree of M.A. without any trouble, and have been detained here ever since, through an unwillingness to leave my old acquaintance, and a fondness for a place where I spent five years with so much pleasure and satisfaction. I cannot possibly meet you at Buckingham. The weather is so disagreeable that I cannot ride, and a post chaise would cost me one shilling a mile, which, in the reduced state of my finances, I cannot well spare. Besides, I want to stay in London for some time. If I had known sooner of your intention, I should have come to London to attend you. My compliments to Mr. and Mrs. Bowyear. I should be very glad to be introduced to Mr. Bowyear's acquaintance, and to laugh a day or two with your sister on your new-acquired consequence and dignity, but hope they will excuse me at this time, as it was principally owing to my persuasion, and engagement to meet you, that you have visited them. I do not despair even of your absolution, as you are now in good spirits and perfect good-humour with every body. I have stolen from the common room, where I have been drinking pretty freely with the Fellows, in order to send you this letter. To-morrow I am to dine with the Provost, and next day set out for London. I am, Reverend Brother, your sincere friend, DAVID RODERICK.

was suddenly interrupted by hearing of the illness of his cousin Francis Parr, Fellow of King's College, Cambridge. His friendship for this young man exhibits his character in so amiable a point of view, that it will form a pleasing episode to enter into a detail of some length. Francis Parr was the son of the Rev. Robert Parr, Rector of Horsted, in Norfolk, and elder brother of Dr. Parr's father. He was educated at Eton; and at the age of 16 was second boy in the school, and did not become captain because there were two vacancies at King's, which carried off the captain and himself at the same time. Hearing of his illness at Cambridge, and that he was attended by Dr. Glynn, Parr desired him to come to Harrow for further advice. He was attended by Doctor, afterwards Sir Noah Thomas, for what was deemed a scrofulous complaint; and after having undergone an excruciating operation, the extraction of a tooth, and the perforation of the alveolar process, for the purpose of draining off a supposed abscess, he was sent to Margate for the benefit of the sea. No wonder he suffered violent pains, for he had taken the fourth part of a grain of corrosive sublimate twice a day, from March 3d* probably till May the 9th, when

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* ℞ Merc. corros. sublimat. gr. ij solv. in aq. menth. pip. simpl. ℥ iv.

℞ Aq. Cinnam. simpl. ℥ i. solut. præscript. ℥ ss.—Nuc. Mosch. ʒ ij Syr. Croc. ʒ j fiat Haustus sumendus omni mane et nocte.

Si tormina usui Haustus præscripti supervenerint, adde Haustui nocturno Tincturæ Thebaici gutt. x.

there is a prescription for a mixture to be injected into the nostrils thrice a day; and such was the

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Si Alvus nimis soluta fuerit, adde eidem Haustui nocturno Tinct. Theb. gutt. x.

Si Alvus adstricta fuerit, cap. q. n. m. vel. q. s. Electarii sequentir.

℞ Elect. Lenitiv. ℥iss Crystal Tartar. ℥ss Rad. Jalap. ℥iss Syr. Rosar. solut. q. s. fiat Electarium.

Si oris glandulæ afficiantur, omittatur Haustus per dies tres vel quatuor, et sumatur omni mane per dies tres vel quatuor, Electarii, q. s. ad alvum ter solvendam.

Mr. Parr, Mart: 3tio, 1770. N. T.

℞ Rad. Sarsaparill. ℥iij decoq. leni igne ex aq. puræ ℔vi. ad ℔ij deinde adde liquori colato, postquam refixerit, Aq. Nuc. Mosch. ℥ij.

Bibat totum partitis vicibus quotidie.

Mr. Parr, April 21mo, 1770. N. T.

℞ Aq. Flordeat. ℔ss.

Mell. Rosac. ℥i Tinctur. Myrrh ℥ss. m. fiat injectio.—This mixture is to be injected into the nostrils thrice a day.

Mr. Parr, May 9, 1770. N. T.

SIR, *Old Burlington-street, July* 13, 1770.

I should have answered your letter by the return of the post, but that I thought it necessary to see your cousin first. He has just left me, and I think him much better than he was some days ago; that is, his pain is greatly abated, the hectic heat almost gone, and his spirits are much improved. Mr. Bromfield and I are of opinion that the impostumation, which began in the left nostril, has made its way into what anatomists call the antrum, or great sinus of the left upper jaw. We therefore directed two of the teeth called grinders to be drawn, and a perforation to be made into this antrum, that the matter might have a vent into the mouth. This has been done in some measure; but we do not think the perforation large enough,

agony he suffered, that the operation above alluded to was deemed necessary on the 8th of July. From Margate he returned, unrestored to health, and continued growing slowly worse the remainder of the year. "On Thursday, the 11th of January, 1771, Frank set out for Cambridge, to undergo his College examination for his degree; the weather was extremely cold, but Dr. Glynn, Vice Provost of King's, who was angry with Frank because he had ceased to be Glynn's patient, and put himself under the care of other medical men, compelled Frank in this dreadful weather, and with all his alarming complaints, to go into the College chapel. Frank being a Fellow of King's, this examination was necessary to his degree of Bachelor of Arts." He returned from Cambridge on the 19th of January; on February 12th grew worse; an abscess formed which required the surgical aid of Mr. Bromfield on the 26th; he gradually grew worse, and died at Harrow April 28th, 1771. Dr. Parr's own memorandum goes on thus: "Frank was buried on

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and shall to-morrow order it to be enlarged. He does not seem to us to be in immediate danger; we rather think he has a pretty good chance to get well; how soon, it is impossible for us to say. If neither the jaw-bone nor any of the neighbouring bones are foul, he will soon recover his health; otherwise, the cure will be tedious. He certainly is of a scrophulous habit of body, which may retard the cure. You may be assured that I shall pay all the attention in my power to Mr. Parr's case; and I make no doubt but Mr. Bromfield will do the same. I beg you would be pleased to present my compliments to Mr. and Mrs. Forster. I am, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

N. THOMAS.

Saturday, May 4th, in the same grave wherein lay the remains of my father and mother, at the West end of the church. His brother Robert had come to Harrow upon April the 30th at ten o'clock at night. The funeral was furnished by —— at Harrow. The body of Frank had been brought from his lodgings at Sloughters' to my house on Friday night, and deposited in the little parlour. The coffin was very handsome, and a plume of white feathers was placed over it. The pall was supported by Mr. Browning, who had come up on Friday the 3d of May; by Mr. Evans, the Curate; and by Mr. Drury, then an usher, and afterwards upper master at Harrow, on the right side. It was supported on the left side by Mr. Wadeson, under master; by Mr. Roderick, my assistant; and by Mr. White, assistant to my cousin Robert Forster, surgeon. The burial was about six in the evening. The body was preceded by the learned Dr. Sumner, head master of Harrow school. He read the service most eloquently; and little did he foresee that I should be called upon to perform the same duty for himself, in a few short months after that he had performed for my dear cousin Frank. My friendship with this excellent man continued in this world 11 years 4 months and 18 days. Frank's mother came up twice. They loved each other tenderly. I promised her at Frank's request an annuity of £5. I promised Frank to pay his Cambridge debts, and they were paid faithfully. The whole amount of what was paid was £223. I was then very poor, but I could not grudge my money for a dear relative and friend,

for whom I would gladly have laid down my life. Frank Parr had much good sense, and much pleasantry; and he used to laugh with perfect good-humour at the peculiarities of his three comrades, Topping, Paddon, and Sir John, alias Browning. Frank was full six feet high; he had a fine person, and a fine countenance; he always dressed elegantly. He was very polite in his manners; he was admired by the ladies, and esteemed by all his acquaintance. He was endeared to my soul by his virtues. He was a good scholar, but he laughed at me as a laborious student. He kept up his Greek and Latin, and I approved his taste, though I scolded him for want of diligence. He was beginning to write well in English; and among my letters there is one from Frank, in which the composition is very good indeed. If he had lived, I should have guided and goaded him into more knowledge. I shall never forget his form, his voice, his friendship, and his numerous moral excellencies. His complaint was hereditary scrofula; it destroyed not him only, but his brother Tom; and it appeared more or less in the elder brother Robert. The disease came not from his father, but from his mother."* The ad-

* The following letter is declaratory of F. Parr's sense of his cousin's kindness:

MY DEAREST AND BEST OF FRIENDS,

You are too benevolent, too bountiful to me. Do not misinterpret my meaning, but I am afraid you distress yourself to benefit me. I have just received your letter and present by Mr. Thackeray. Notwithstanding my previous determination

mirable letters subjoined contain the warmest effusions of piety, mingled with brotherly affection. Parr, in his own words, has given a simple, but impressive account, of the generous manner in which he acted; the letters will be lasting monuments of his zealous affection, his devout spirit, and of his unbounded confidence in the mercy of God.

MY DEAR, DEAR FRIEND,

I told you that I should write no more; and yet, contrary to my own engagements and your expectation, I have snatched up the pen to write now. Well, my dear Frank, I am very sure you will excuse me, and will attribute my conduct to that anxious, zealous regard, I always have felt, and always shall feel for you. I found Dr. Thomas at home, and sat with him more than half an hour. We had much and earnest conversa-

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not to write to you till I had received an answer from Dr. Thomas, your letter obliges me to take up my pen, (which, by the bye, is a very bad one,) and send you something like an answer to both yours. Your heartiness of expression convinces me that every moment is an age till you hear from me. To ease your anxiety take these few lines, and pray do not expect many more, for I know of no occurrence worthy of my insertion or your perusal, no account of my reading the *οἱ πανυ*, no material alteration in my health; my old complaints still remain, though, upon the whole, I am improved. Be not alarmed about my care of myself. Paddon is as unwilling to suggest any thing which might hurt me, as I am to attend to his suggestions. Gulliver's Travels, the daily papers, and the Dramatic Censor, are my studies. Of the two latter I will not say much; the former you will join me in admiring—there are many severe but just reflections in them. The weather is at present favourable. I ride every day. You shall hear from me soon, till which time adieu! God bless you, and reward you for your good offices to F. PARR.

tion about your unhappy case. He spoke to me with much freedom, opennesss, and candour; and, though I was extremely dejected at the purport of his declarations, I was highly pleased with their honesty. He charged me to keep up your spirits and my own; acknowledged your situation deplorable, but not desperate; and encouraged me, by very solid arguments, to look for some relief from the methods you now pursue. My dear friend, you know the bottom of my heart; and, if I have a thought there which you do not know, I shall suspect myself of ingratitude in desiring to conceal it from a man of your unsuspecting confidence and thorough integrity. You believe me, I suppose, to be a Christian. You believe me not to have taken up my faith upon a careless, superficial examination; not to keep or part with it at random—not to lay it down as an abstract truth defensible only in theory—but to consider it as a constant principle of action. That I have committed many mistakes, even with this steady, this hearty persuasion, that the Gospel is of Divine authority, I own with sorrow; but I am happy and proud to own, that my mistakes and faults would have been far greater without it. From this, my dear friend, from this I am seriously convinced, that Providence does rule over the world, and that all secondary events are under its disposal; and that, what we unphilosophically call a particular interposition, makes, in reality, only one part of the general administration. I am convinced, too, that the Almighty is ever ready to succour those who call on him with resignation to his will, and trust in his mercy; and that he can bend the course of things to an accomplishment of his purposes, by means as much above our comprehension, as they are for ends conducive to our happiness. Under this sense, I look for success from the earthly endeavours we are making for your recovery; and, for the same reason, I pray God to bless by his favour those means which he directs by his wisdom. Under this sense, you doubtless comfort yourself with the hopes of receiving relief, and at the same time look up for success only to the hand of heaven. I know not how it came about; last Saturday, my dear friend, I went to London with a full resolution to open my bosom, and to talk with you both seriously and copiously about the concerns of another life. Such a conversation would certainly

have been not inconsistent with my Clerical character. It would have been not improper from one who has that hearty, earnest affection to all your interests, that I pay to yours. I would have been not offensive to a man of your sound understanding and firm faith. Yet my unwillingness to deject you got the better of all my determinations, and I kept the secrets fast up within my bosom, which have now found their way in this letter. In a word, my dear fellow Christian, let me beg of you to think earnestly of another state. If it is at hand, such thoughts are peculiarly seasonable: if it is far distant, they yet become your present situation. These are moments in which I cannot stoop to trifle or dissemble with you. I should disdain to dissemble myself. I should be angry if, in such circumstances, you from benevolence should wish to deceive me. I know the common cant of—'it will make him low—it can do him no good —poor soul, he wants to be comforted'—I know, and despise it. If you are unfit for another life, it is high time to rouse you from your lethargy; if you are fit, it is the only prospect that ought to employ your attention, because the only one that can deserve it. Ah, my friend! address your prayers to Almighty God in the name of his Son; beg his mercy to all the follies and irregularities of your youth.

Without sorrow you cannot repent. Without repentance you cannot be saved. With it you will have comfort here and joy hereafter. My dear Frank, I beg of you again and again, approach in thought and prayer that God, before whom we must all at some time or other appear; before whom it may be our lot to appear very soon. But why should we be shocked? Christianity unfolds futurity in every cheering, every delightful representation; it shews the mercy of our God and the love of our Saviour. It shews that through the Gospel covenant, even our imperfect services shall be accepted, and our numberless sins forgiven. It shews us that you and I, with all our follies and all our faults, may, I trust, humbly trust we shall, meet in Heaven, never, never to be separated; more virtuous, more fond, more friendly yours, my dear Frank,

S. PARR.

Do not wonder at my greediness to snatch the very few moments, which our gracious and wise Father will perhaps allow us to have in this world. Oh, my friend! may his boundless mercy, may the merits and intercession of his most blessed Son, bring us together in a future life, never, never, to be separated. You know, Frank, that I have always looked on this scene as only preparatory to another; and indeed there is no one object in it, that bears comparatively any value in my sight, but the friendship of some good men, and yours very far above all others. Yet, my soul, the very consideration which makes me as a man more reluctant to lose you, ought to give me as a Christian the highest pleasure. God is my witness, that I do not flatter you; but your goodness of heart, your soundness of faith, all, all conspire to tie you to my heart, and to fix me your friend. Such virtue I never have found; I never can find. Heaven give me grace to be thankful for it, grace to imitate it, and to share with you in the final reward of our labours. Our present situation calls upon me to speak in this serious manner. When I weigh together what I have seen of your case, and what I have heard of it from your physician, my soul breaks loose from every comfort, by which religion ought to bind me; and is plunged into extreme and agonizing despair. But this state of mind is not lasting. I am able to collect my disordered thoughts; to fix my warm heart; and to rest my whole and sincere confidence in the infinite, inconceivable goodness of the Supreme. Such is the weakness of nature, that I cannot be quite easy; it is true I have great trust in the kindness of God, and in the efficacy of a Saviour's intercession. I look forward with exultation to the joys which are treasured up for you, and with trembling hope make part of them my own. Yet the tear will drop, and the heart will ache. Oh my dear, dear Frank, oh were that day arrived to both of us, when every sigh shall be stopped, and every evil done away, and our souls lifted up from this vale of sorrow to boundless and heavenly joy. Let me open myself yet further to you. Should it please God to deprive me of you, I know it is my duty, through his grace it shall be my endeavour, to bear the stroke. But if it falls, I shall, I shall, my friend, have no wishes to continue: my hopes, my thoughts, will follow, and I shall long, perhaps impatiently

long, for that hour, which shall restore us to each other, and bring us to our God. My prayers, my dear friend, I do not fail to offer up in behalf of your body and soul; I dare say you do the same for me. May the Almighty, for his dear Son's sake, hear us both, save, preserve, bless us, for ever.

I hope to get the towels ready in a day or two. Pray make yourself easy, my heart, about all money, and claim mine as your own. Let no false pride, no superfluous delicacy, no unfriendly, unmanly, unchristian suspicions, keep you from repeating your demands. "Greater love," says our Saviour, "than this has no man, than that a man should lay down his life for his friend." God is my judge that I would most readily, most contentedly, most gladly die, for you, my dear, dear soul! Can I then refuse you any thing else? We have a common interest here, a common hope hereafter. Heaven grant our friendship to last to all eternity. If the towels are ready, you will perhaps see me for an hour or two on Thursday or Friday evening. Write a line by to-night's post. Write, if it be only a line. Pray eat three or four jellies a day. Pray take care of yourself. I commend you to the great God and his most gracious Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. Through his mediation and intercession may we live long on earth, and meet in Heaven!

Yours, my friend, sincerely and affectionately,

SAMUEL PARR.

My distraction, dear Frank, grows intolerable. My eyes are sometimes raised to Heaven with humble and pious confidence—they are in a moment sunk down to the earth, and all hope, all comfort, vanish from before me. Now I feel the weakness of human nature, and the emptiness of human knowledge; now I feel the consolations which religion only can offer, which it has offered, and does offer to me, under the expectation of a calamity more dreadful to me than death. For what, my dear soul, what have I to lose by the resignation of a life whose pleasures have been mostly borrowed from the prospect of futurity, and whose very capacity of bestowing happiness is destroyed when you, the last, best gift of my God, art torn from me. Be not shocked—we are men—we are Chris-

tians—I have lived in hopes of seeing you prosper here—I shall live, perhaps, under the well-grounded assurance that you will be happy hereafter—happy in heaven—happy in the reward of your virtue—in the approbation of your Redeemer, in the favour of your God. This joy no man taketh from you. With you may I share this joy. Yes, my friend, I can without horror, let me add without presumption, yield myself to death, and even pray for it, under the hope of seeing and living with you in another and a better, far better state. Under this conviction, let us bow down our hearts, and commit our souls and our bodies, to Him who judgeth righteously, to a Redeemer whose love is boundless, to a God whose mercy is inexhaustible. My dear, dear heart, I could not bear the idea of suffering you to feel one uneasy thought, and therefore I sent you three guineas this morning, on the very moment after my arrival. I will in a few days send you some towels, and if you please a table-cloth or two, and other necessaries which you find occasion for. Write me word of the consultation. Tell me what say your physicians about your health and earthly condition; and tell me, oh! my dear creature, what your own heart suggests to you about your future one. May that God whose mercy is over all his works; that God, who will not reject the meanest of his creatures, when they approach him in the the name of a crucified, interceding Saviour; may he mitigate your pains—may he restore your health—may he bless your soul—even so, Lord Jesus! amen.

Yours to eternity, S. PARR.

My respects and kindest wishes to the Baronet. Thanks and compliments to Mr. Calvert.

How much his tenderness was appreciated by his true friend Bennet, and how much he sympathized with his affliction, is demonstrated by the two following letters; the one written after the death of F. Parr, and the other after the funeral:

Emanuel College, April 1771.

The melancholy occasion on which you wrote to me, my dear Sam, though by no means unexpected, failed not to have

its proper force. I always feared a relapse, but I was unwilling to embitter by my suspicions any of the agreeable hours we passed together; the stroke was indeed sudden, but your mind is too strong in itself, and too well guarded by religion to sink under an accident that has only anticipated the loss which a very few years, or it may be a few weeks, would have brought with them. When you read this, Frank will probably be no more. You feel all that the most sincere tenderness can feel for his death, but how would your sorrows have been increased had he been called suddenly and unprepared into the presence of his Creator; or had he, after his life had been prolonged by your earnest supplications, relapsed again into sin, and called down a severer stroke of justice. You have now done every thing in your power to assist and to save him; you have looked forward to his spiritual as well as his temporal happiness; and it is owing perhaps to your arguments or to your prayers, that one more soul is added to the blessed in heaven. And have you not more reason to triumph than to lament that his pains are lost, his fears are conquered, his happiness ensured? I know that you repine at his not passing many more years with you; at his falling in the prime of his youth; but sure your hopes could be few that he would pass those years in pleasure and health: and with his constitution broken, his temper soured, his life continually exposed, he could have afforded you but little comfort. I can suppose, too, that your tenderness may be hurt at the pains he suffered in his lingering illness; but not to dwell on the preparation this lingering illness gave him, might not those very pains expiate, even in this life, the few sins of which he had been guilty? Forgive my visionary notions. I am confident they might, I am confident they did; and Frank, cleansed from the follies as well as delivered from the cares of a miserable life, will be the first to welcome you into that heaven, to which your prayers and your merits have introduced him.

Yet let not even suspicion breathe a hint that while I magnify your Cousin's pains or your piety; while I believe him happy through your merits; that I mean to discredit or to diminish, the infinite merits of our Redeemer. It was through him you applied, through him you will be received; he looked down

with pleasure on your well-meant endeavours, and perfected the repentance which you awakened and promoted.

Throw then aside your partial, and in this case misplaced fondness, and ask your own soul, whether she does not consider Frank's release from his pains as an event not only positively good, because proceeding from a positively good being, but as necessary, advantageous, and happy. If you wish your Cousin delivered from his distempers; if you wish him to be favoured by his God, you could never find a clearer, or more certain evidence of either. Torn indeed from our arms, he is raised to the embraces of his heavenly Father; and happy in himself, he no longer needs your assistance, your labours, or your tears, to make and to guard him so.

Mr. Thackeray waits, and I can write no more. If Frank is yet sensible, assure him of my most earnest respects, of my unfeigned love; if he is happy, receive my congratulations instead of my condolements. And after indulging the tears which nature excites, and religion does not forbid, settle your mind into the calm recollection, that having experienced every thing from your (I must call it paternal) tenderness, he is now experiencing yet higher blessings, from the tenderness of his Saviour and his God.

I am, &c. &c.

W. BENNET.

To the Rev. Mr. Parr, at Harrow on the Hill.

MY DEAR SAM, *Begun May 5th, ended 9th*, 1771.

Do not think it unkind that I neither attended Mr. Evans to Harrow, nor sent a letter by him. The shortness of his stay, and the accident of my lameness, made neither possible. I could have been happy to have had some little share in paying the last offices to our dear friend, and contributing something perhaps, to alleviate the loss. Those offices are now paid; may I hope that the loss too is now alleviated? You are in good hands; the good nature of Mr. Roderick, the sense, the humanity of Sumner, and your own piety, will suggest arguments, or invent diversions, sufficient at least to hinder your mind from preying upon itself. I know, my dear friend,

you will not murmur openly at the dispensations of Providence; but you may think them severe, you may sink under their weight. With a mind naturally firm as yours is, and made much stronger by a very high sense of religion, it is particularly your duty to stand up against misfortune. Considered either as a philosopher, a man, or a Christian, you are an example to others; and if you shrink in the hour of danger, what will become of me, who have neither your firmness or your piety?

> Where, where, for shelter shall the guilty fly,
> When consternation turns the good man pale?

Business confines me much; it has in one respect done me service. I mean in preventing my being too melancholy at misfortunes, which my melancholy could never alleviate. May it have the same effect on you! This letter, wrote at different times and in different tempers, in sickness and health, leisure and business, can be of no other service than to let you know what you knew before, the unalterable and affectionate friendship of your WM. BENNET.

To the Rev. Mr. Parr, at Harrow on the Hill, Middlesex.

Scarcely had Parr recovered from the shock of Francis Parr's death, when he was doomed to sustain what was in fact a heavier loss to him, and which marred his hopes of advancement. In Dr. Sumner he found a wise counsellor, a zealous protector, and a most faithful and affectionate friend. When, with the highest credit to himself, and the greatest satisfaction to his employer, Parr had for five years filled the office of an assistant, Dr. Sumner in the autumn of 1771, was carried off by an apoplexy. Parr was in his 25th year. He was the person pointed out by his learning, as the successor of Dr. Sumner. But let the following letters speak the sentiments of his friends, Bennet and Jones:

From Bennet, without date or signature.

I am shocked to the most extraordinary degree by an account in the newspapers of the death of Dr. Sumner. I am yet willing to flatter myself it is false. You have too much punctuality and too much feeling to keep me in suspense by your silence, and a letter to my father's or to College would have reached me here. Judge of my sufferings by your own; the time, the manner of his death affect me. Ah! my friend, was he not too careless in his conduct? Were his talents always applied to the glory of his Maker? Hurried so soon into the presence of God! But I forbear these melancholy thoughts. Gratitude looks forward beyond the grave, and hopes to meet him happy.

I know no accident more contrary to your interest; nor can imagine whether you lose all your expectations in my despair, or whether adversity has only called up your talents, and you have some hopes of succeeding him. Let me know your resolves; the Genius of the School waits for them in silence. It is not my partiality; it is nature and reason that look upon you as the only person that can prevent Harrow from sinking again into the lowest contempt.

God bless you, my dearest friend! The loss of one tie here only strengthens my others. I expect to hear even the minutest particulars. Farewell, farewell.

From Sir William Jones is the same anxious inquiry:

DEAR PARR, *Sept.* 13, 1771.

I have just met with a paragraph in the Public Advertiser of this morning, which, I hope, from my soul, is not true. It says that Dr. Sumner died of an apoplexy on Tuesday. I entreat you to relieve my anxiety immediately by writing a line to me at Mr. Brudenell's in Duke-street, Westminster.

I am yours very truly,

WM. JONES.

In less than two months Sir William Jones writes:

To the Rev. Mr. Bennet, Fellow of Emanuel College, Cambridge.

Westminster, 10th Nov.

I have received your letter, my dear Bennet; but, as the Law Term is begun, have not time to answer it as fully as I could wish. Parr tells me he has heard from you. As his profession allows him more leisure than mine, I leave him to inform you of the revolutions at Harrow, and of his own settlement at Stanmore. He will also satisfy you with regard to the Exercise book.* I am glad you still think of Apollonius; though I could wish you would compose some work of History or Literature in our own language. If you should finish any such work, I will engage to dispose of it in London to the best advantage; and we must not be so lost to philosophy as to neglect every opportunity of honourable gain. Stephens (or Monsieur *Etienne*, as his true name was) did not insert the Argonautics among his other Greek Poems; I suppose, because he had printed, or intended to print, it separately. How Master Fabrice and vir clariss. Bennetus came to get into a mistake about it, I cannot tell. You will think more highly of my sincerity than my gratitude, when I tell you that I was not so deeply affected with the loss of Sumner as you seem to be. My confidence in him had been considerably decreased for the three last years, and I began to take less pleasure in his company than ever. As to himself, he had too many misfortunes to make life any longer desirable. I have learned so much, seen so much, written so much, said so much, and thought so much, since I conversed with you, that were I to attempt to tell half what I have learned, seen, writ, said, and thought,

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* This book was kept by Dr. Sumner for the purpose of inserting the best exercises of his pupils. Mr. Roderick tells me that there were many of Sir William Jones and of Bennet in it, but none of Parr. The reason probably was, that Parr had left school before Sumner began to keep the book, which is now in the hands of Mr. Holme Sumner.

my letter would have no end. I spend the whole winter in attending the public speeches of our greatest lawyers and senators, and in studying our own admirable laws, which exhibit the most noble example of human wisdom that the mind of man can contemplate. I give up my leisure hours to a Political Treatise *on the Turks*, from which I expect some reputation; and I have several objects of ambition, which I cannot trust to a letter, but will impart to you when we meet. If I stay in England, I shall print my *De Poesi Asiatica* next summer, though I shall be at least £200 out of pocket by it. In short, if you wish to know my occupations, read the beginning of Middleton's Cicero, pp. 13—18, and you will see my model; for I would willingly lose my head at the age of sixty, if I could pass a life at all analogous to that which Middleton describes. Parr talks of being with you at Christmas; I fear I shall not be able to accompany him. Farewell. The time, I hope, will come when we shall see more of each other than we have been able to do for the last seven years.

Such were the different feelings of the friends. Parr officiated at the interment of Dr. Sumner, and composed the inscription on his monument, which is placed in Harrow Church.

Immediately on Dr. Sumner's death, Parr became candidate for the school at Harrow, and sent the following circular letter to each of the governors:

SIR, *Harrow, Sept.* 12, 1771.

As Dr. Sumner was last night carried off by an apoplexy, I have taken the liberty of offering myself as a candidate for the Mastership, and of soliciting your support. My birth in the town, my education in the school, and the employment in which I have been engaged for near five years under Dr. Sumner, will, I flatter myself, in some measure recommend me to your favour. Give me leave to hope, Sir, that you will excuse me from a personal attendance; which, indeed, I am incapable of paying, from the perplexity of our affairs after this unex-

pected and unhappy event, and from the necessity of my assistance in the School.

I am, Sir, with great respect,
your most obedient servant,
SAMUEL PARR.

It appears by the two following letters that Parr exerted himself much as a candidate. The Rev. Dr. Smith, Master of Caius College, writes thus to him, September 19th, 1771:

DEAR SIR,

I wish you success with all my heart, on account of Harrow School in general, &c. and I will most assuredly sign and forward, as I am able, your petition for a Master's degree. I am, dear Sir, your obliged and humble servant, J. SMITH.

From the Earl of Dartmouth to Mr. Parr:

SIR,

I have just received, with the utmost concern, the melancholy account of the death of Dr. Sumner. In the confusion that such an event must necessarily create in the School, you will not be surprised that I should be particularly anxious for my sons, and that I should beg the favour of you to pay more than ordinary attention to them, and to have them under your eye as much as possible. As the reputation and prosperity of the School will depend so much on the choice of his successor, there can be no doubt that the governors will take care to supply his place as worthily as possible. My wish is, that the choice may fall upon you. If you should have any thoughts of the employment, I shall be very glad to contribute any thing in my power towards your success, and to write to Sir John, and Mr. Rushout, for that purpose. I shall be obliged to you, if you will let me know what plan is intended to be pursued. Lord Lewisham joins very sincerely in my concern for this loss, and desires me to present his compliments to you. I am, Sir,

Your obedient humble servant,

15th Sept. 1771. DARTMOUTH.

To the Earl of Dartmouth, from Mr. Parr:

MY LORD,

As Dr. Sumner had repeatedly declared to me his intentions, in case of his resignation, and as his friendly representations of my conduct have established some interest among the trustees, I thought proper to declare myself a candidate. It gives me, my Lord, the highest pleasure to find that such proceeding is agreeable to your Lordship's inclinations; and I am at a loss to express the sense I have of the great honour you do me in wishing me success, and of the service you offer in forwarding it. A recommendation, my Lord, to Sir John Rushout and Mr. Rushout would, I am confident, carry with it the greatest weight; and you will give me leave to hint, that the sooner such a step is taken, the more likely it is to avail. Your Lordship may be assured of my very particular attention to the Mr. Legges at this critical juncture. The general propriety of their behaviour secures them from every suspicion of irregularity, and it is but justice to every part of the School to acknowledge, that they have conducted themselves in the most decent and respectful manner. I have the honour to be, &c. &c.

S. PARR.

This confidence of the Earl of Dartmouth in Mr. Parr continued, till the education of all his sons was finished. Mr. Augustus Legge, the youngest, was placed under his care at Hatton. The elder branches of this family boarded with Dr. Glasse, who at that time lived at Harrow, and received a select number of boys who were educated in the public school, which he thus made subservient to the interests of his own establishment. His boarders were chiefly boys of fortune, attending the school without being subject to bills.* Dr. Sumner on his accession to

* Bills of absence, or callings over, a check upon boys, to keep them within reasonable bounds.

the mastership, issued an order, that no boy should be exempt from bills.* This order deranged Dr. Glasse's plan, and after some struggle he withdrew his pupils from the school. In this struggle he so warmly engaged the present Lord Radnor's father on his side, that the Earl threatened to destroy the school if Dr. Sumner would not yield. He was inflexible and undismayed. Lord Dartmouth supported him in the change, and took his sons away from Glasse, and placed them under the care of Sumner, and afterwards under Parr at Stanmore. Glasse finally left Harrow, and then established himself at Greenfield.

The following is an account of what happened on Dr. Heath's election to the school, by an eye witness, the Rev. David Roderick, then one of the assistants: "Dr. Askew, with whose character for literature you are I presume acquainted, was the friend of Dr. Sumner; and the physician who was called in, whenever a physician was necessary at Harrow, unless the parents had pointed out some other person. When Dr. Sumner was seized by his fatal apoplexy, Dr. Askew was sent for, and arrived at Harrow about midnight. Dr. Sumner was then dead, or dying. Parr, Drury, and I were in the house. Dr. Askew then said, that Parr must offer himself for the Headship, unless Mr. Wadeson should think of making application. This, as we had foreseen, he declined, and Parr immediately applied to the governors; and through the Duke of Grafton, the Chancellor of

* From Mr. Roderick's authority.

Cambridge, he had taken necessary steps for obtaining by mandamus the degree of M. A. which was a necessary qualification. When it was discovered in a week or more that Heath was to succeed, Parr determined to give up the assistantship; but, whether setting up an establishment of his own was *his* thought, or the suggestion of some other person, I do not now recollect." Stanmore was recommended by Mr. Smith the rector, who was then Parr's warmest friend, as the most promising place. In answer to his circular of application, his age, not then 25 complete, was pleaded by the governors as a reason for rejecting his pretensions. The boys, whom he had instructed with so much assiduity, and grounded with so much wisdom, were anxious for his success; and when the election fell upon the learned Mr. Benjamin Heath, the young gentlemen endeavoured to avenge the cause of their favourite master, by overt acts of violent rebellion. "When it was known that Heath was likely to become master," says Mr. Roderick, "the upper boys considered it as an indignity to have an Eton assistant put over them, when they had in their own school a person of superior learning." This notion they inculcated into the other boys, so that a petition ably drawn up and signed by every boy in the school was presented to the governors on the subject.* "The

* The following is a copy:

To the Governors of Harrow School.

SIRS,

We, the senior scholars, as the voice of the whole school, having received intelligence that you propose, con-

rebellion at Harrow," continues Mr. Roderick, "was totally unforeseen by Parr or me; nor had we seen

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trary to the manifest desire of each of us, to appoint Mr. Heath, or some other person from Eton, as successor to our late master Dr. Sumner, earnestly desire you would in some measure take into your consideration the unanimous wishes of the whole school, which are universally declared in favour of Mr. Parr. As we most of us are independent of the foundation, we presume our inclinations ought to have some weight in the determination of your choice. We are informed your only objection to Mr. Parr is his age, which indeed his sound abilities and distinguished morality sufficiently obviate. If you consider the age of his predecessor, (when elected,) the difference will be found immaterial. Our natural affection for such a person educated at Harrow, enforced by the consideration of his many good qualities, are sufficient reasons for our preferring Mr. Parr. We cannot help being surprised at your so strongly supporting a man from Eton, as there appear so many objections for any one from that place. Our late master's abilities were such as at that time fully authorised your choice. But when a person like Mr. Parr, whose capacity yourselves cannot object to, assisted with so many advantages, is universally proposed, a master from any other place would be needless, and therefore we flatter ourselves our request will not appear unreasonable. A school of such reputation as our late master has rendered this, ought not to be considered as an appendix to Eton. Nor should the plan by which it has been raised to such eminence, be subverted by continual innovations from another school. Mr. Parr cannot but be acquainted with those rules which his predecessor has established, and will consequently act upon the former successful plan. We hope in your determination, private attachments, or personal affection, will not bias your minds to the prejudice of the school. A school cannot be supported when every individual is disaffected towards the master; neither will the disregarded wishes of numbers want opportunities in shewing their resentment. It is hoped that an answer will be given to our request, which, if granted,

so much as the petition to the governors. When Mr. Bucknell's carriage was taken out of the inn

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will ever claim our most grateful acknowledgments. Quicquid necessitas coget defendet.

It was against this spirit that Mr. Heath wrote to Dr. Demainbray, requesting power to enforce submission; but young Demainbray was not submitted to his authority; he went to Stanmore.

On the same day that Heath wrote his letter to Dr. Demainbray, Parr, hearing of the imputations against himself, wrote the following letter to Mr. Heath:

SIR, *Harrow, Oct.* 6, 1771.

In the course of common conversation I yesterday heard that a report, highly prejudicial to my character, had been maliciously and industriously propagated in respect to my conduct on Thursday last. It amounts to nothing less than that I was personally instrumental in encouraging the petulance of the boys, and inflaming their resentment. In answer to a charge, which becomes formidable only from the delicacy of my situation, I assert that neither my adherents or myself either privately contrived or publicly abetted the riot, and that every outrage was the immediate, unforeseen effect of illiberality on the part of the Governors, and precipitation on that of the boys. An accusation so improbable in itself can meet only with contempt from a man of sense and candour, as I am persuaded you are; and yet it is so pregnant with important consequences to my reputation, that I should have been at least imprudent in not standing forth, both to satisfy you and vindicate myself. Should an aspersion of this kind meet your ears, you now have the power to contradict it on the most express and decisive authority; and need I add that, to crush every treacherous, malevolent calumny, is a debt you owe equally to your own honour and my innocence. I will go one step farther, and declare that these violent proceedings have met from me the most positive disapprobation, and the most vigorous opposition. I am very capable, Sir, of distinguishing between

yard I happened to be in the street, and ran to protect it, and saved one side; but on my going to the other side, that which I had left, was demolished. The carriage was taken to the Common, and completely destroyed. On the return of the boys, some of the younger ones had stones in their hands to throw at the windows of Mr. Horne, another of the governors. This I prevented by representing the inhumanity of terrifying two elderly ladies the sisters of Mr. Horne. I do not now recollect, whether I knew that a petition in favour of Parr was to be presented, till I saw it in the hands of the Governors, when they asked me to continue at Harrow.

"It was some years afterwards objected to me that I was concerned in the rebellion at Harrow; and Dr. Heath, after his appointment, had in his public advertisement and private letters* called up-

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you, the involuntary instrument of my disappointment, and the iniquitous authors of it; and you may be assured that my indignation at the meanness, the injustice, and the perfidy of your electors, can never lessen my esteem for your own incontestible and uncommon merit. I am, Sir, your most obedient servant, S. PARR.

Mr. Heath did not answer this letter. Parr called upon him, and left a card, when Heath was established at Harrow. He did not return the visit.

* SIR, *Eton, October 6.*

I think it my duty to inform you of my appointment to the School at Harrow. As I could not leave my connections at Eton without proper notice to the parents of my pupils; and as Mr. Parr and Mr. Roderick, the two Assistants, have declined all farther concern with the business of the place, the

on the parents to discountenance a spirit of insubordination, and to support lawful authority, by sending their sons back to school, to undergo such punishment as it might be thought necessary to inflict on them."

"On the sudden death of my learned friend, Dr. Robert Sumner (says Parr), I became candidate for the upper mastership, and I thought my claims not contemptible, as I had been on the foundation of John Lyon, and had served faithfully as upper assistant for nearly five years. The Governors kept me in the dark till the night before the election. I flung up the assistantship indignantly, and settled at Stanmore. The boys, from their attachment to me, rebelled furiously, and nearly 40 of them went with me to Stanmore. My successful competitor, Dr. Benjamin Heath, an assistant at Eton, was a very good scholar, and by his personal merit justified the choice of the Governors. One or two of the Governors pleaded against me my youth; but the real ground was a vote which I had given at Brentford in favour of John Wilkes, and a suspicion that my independent spirit would lead me to govern

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Governors have thought it expedient to adjourn the School until Monday the 14th instant. If you should please to approve their nomination, I must request the concurrence of your authority to enforce a proper submission to those regulations which may be thought necessary for the establishment of discipline. With your countenance and support, I shall hope to discharge the duties of so important a trust to your perfect satisfaction. I am, Sir, with great respect,

Your most obedient and faithful servant,

To Dr. Demainbray, Richmond. BENJAMIN HEATH.

the school according to my own notions, and the example of my known counsellor, Dr. Sumner, who in 1760 found 80 boys, and in 1771 left 250."

Parr, without submitting to the degrading toil of reiterated solicitation, obtained from Dr. Terrick, the then Bishop of London, a licence, which had been at first refused to him with peculiar circumstances of contumely and unkindness; and finally triumphed over the calumnies of those persons who had basely represented him, as an encourager of the disturbance. He himself states how impossible it was to describe the anguish of his honest and ingenuous mind, when he had been thus forcibly driven away from the place where he had drawn his first breath; in which he had received his earliest education; in which he had formed the most endearing connections; and in which he had faithfully discharged the most important duties.

Thus it was his lot to be thwarted in the chief object of his hope or of his ambition; and thus did his want of good fortune circumscribe him within a narrow sphere.

His disappointment at Harrow on the death of Dr. Robert Sumner, was the crisis of his fate. Had he gone on regularly at the head of that great school, it is impossible to say where his own improvement and elevation would have ended, and how greatly the interest of letters might have been promoted. At ease and in peace, many of his excrescences of character would have had no room for growth—many of his eccentricities would have been limited—full scope would have been given to his

love of learning, to his diligence, to his great intellectual powers, and his vast accumulations of knowledge. Forced down and trampled upon, his only resource, he thought, was opposition; he felt himself insulted, and was unhappily determined to retaliate. He went to Stanmore without a penny, followed by his faithful assistant, the learned and Reverend David Roderick; and such was the estimation of his integrity, that Dr. Sumner's brother lent him £2000 on his bond. A house, commodious for the purpose, was to be had; it was accordingly taken, and afterwards bought under the direction of Mr. Smith, Rector of Stanmore; the green house was converted into a school, and the other offices into play room and studies.

On the paper, inclosing the accounts with Mr. William Sumner is written "My account with my benefactor, Mr. William Sumner, very sacred, and to be most carefully preserved." The original bond was for £1600, and the whole sum was not paid till 1782, when Dr. Parr was at Norwich. Another benefactor was Mr. McGuire.

Dr. Parr, in one of his Memorandums, incloses two letters with the following notice:

I preserve these two letters from deep and unfeigned gratitude to the respective writers. Mr. McGuire assisted me when I was disappointed of the Mastership of Harrow School. He entrusted his only son to my care. He shewed me many acts of courtesy and kindness. I visited him at Valence, near Westerham, Kent; in George-street, Hanover-square; and in Norfolk-street, Strand. He lent me two hundred pounds for many years, and would not accept any interest.

Mr. William Sumner was the only brother of my instructor,

friend, and protector, the Rev. Dr. Sumner, Master of Harrow School. At that crisis of my fortune he stood by me. He sent me his two sons; he recommended me to the parents of the other boys. He co-operated with the learned Dr. Adam Askew in protecting my slandered character, and my tottering interests; he lent me two thousand pounds; he suffered me to pay him gradually, in the expence of education for his son, and in instalments from my own money. He charged me only two per cent. I often visited him in Great George-street, Westminster. I once visited him at his fine house at Hatchlands, in Surrey, where he had bought an estate belonging to the late Admiral Boscawen, and where his son George Sumner, M. P. for Surrey, now resides. He was always polite, kind, and even respectful to me. I staid at Hatchlands a much shorter time than he expected and wished, because his fantastic wife would not allow me to smoke. I left his house abruptly, without assigning a reason, and I never went to Hatchlands again. William Sumner was a man of extraordinary activity and fidelity in business. His deportment was dignified, and his conversation fraught with good sense. I shall ever honour his memory, and acknowledge his kindness. S. PARR.

July 13th, 1822.

The letters consisting merely of compliment, I shall not insert.

In November 1771 Parr married Miss Jane Marsingale, a lady maternally descended from the ancient family of the Mauleverers in Yorkshire, and much admired for the soundness of her judgment, the keenness of her penetration, and the unaffected dignity of her manners. There is no doubt that this marriage was managed for him by Dr. Askew. Mrs. Askew was the intimate friend of Miss Marsingale, and the prudence of the young lady was supposed a necessary support to the young scholar, in his establishment at Stanmore. Not that Parr was insensible to the tender passions whilst at Harrow.

In the correspondence are letters thus labelled: "My beloved Susan Hare, afterwards Crump, and her daughter." Susan Hare was a relation of Mrs. Sumner, and visited at Harrow whilst he was assistant to Dr. Sumner. She married a farmer of the name of Crump, at Ledbury in Herefordshire, and in one of her letters, dated 1794, acknowledges his kindness and some presents he had sent her. Another letter is from her daughter, who then lived with Mrs. Hannah More, at Barley Wood near Bristol, and both mother and daughter express the highest veneration for their friend, in their address to him.

At Stanmore the number of his scholars never exceeded sixty; and the profits of his labour were exhausted by the heavy debts, which he was compelled to contract in various purchases, and in making proper accommodation for the reception of his pupils. Among those scholars are some names which have since been distinguished in life. The following letter demonstrates, that the Earl of Dartmouth was one of the first to confide his children to Parr at Stanmore:

SIR, *Sandwell, 10th Oct.* 1771.

My own inclinations concur so perfectly with the wishes of my sons, that I shall not hesitate to indulge them in the request they have made, of being permitted to remove with you to your house at Stanmore. I was unfortunately from home when your letter came, and therefore, did not receive it till this day. I hope, however, that I shall not be too late to desire that they may have a room to themselves, in as airy a part of the house as possible. I am sorry I shall not have an opportunity of seeing you till after the Christmas holidays. I beg

the favour of you to let me know when you fix the time for your school to break up.

I am, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

DARTMOUTH.

The following letter of the late Earl of Dartmouth bears such strong testimony to Parr's popularity at Harrow, that it would be unjust to his memory to withhold it:

SIR, *Christ Church, Dec. 26th*, 1771.

I beg leave to congratulate you upon your late acquisition, wishing you all possible joy and prosperity. I also beg leave, Sir, to return you my sincere thanks for your great goodness to me whilst I was at school, under your tuition, of which I have, and shall always have, the greatest sense. Sorry as I was for the very great loss of my very valuable master, sorry as I was for the disturbance which raged in the school, I could not help rejoicing that my brothers went with you to Stanmore. I propose doing myself the pleasure of seeing you there, as soon as an opportunity shall serve. Give me leave, Sir, to conclude myself, with the highest respect and esteem, your most obedient humble servant, LEWISHAM.

To the Rev. Mr. Parr, Stanmore, Middlesex.

The Alexanders,* Sumners, Grahams † of Netherby, Sigismond Trafford, Maurice, Utoph, Monro, Julius, Fountaine,‡ Dealtry, Vaughan, Dymoke, Colmore, Downing, and Beloe, with the unfortunate Joseph Gerrald, and the unhappy Marland, may be recounted among many other names; and he endeavoured, with the zeal and enthusiasm of youth, to

* Dr. Nathaniel Alexander, the present Bishop of Meath; Henry Alexander, Esq. M. P. his brother; and Monsey Alexander, their cousin, grandson of the eccentric Dr. Monsey of Chelsea.

† The late Sir James Graham and his brother.

‡ Son of the Dean of York.

justify the trust that had been reposed in him. He taught the young men committed to his care, with his usual earnestness and ability; and it deserves to be remembered, that, in the presence of Sir William Jones, Mr. Bennet Langton, and other well known scholars, they performed the Œdipus Tyrannus,* and the Trachiniæ of Sophocles, in the original language. They performed also Young's

* Πρόλογος ἐπὶ τῆς τραγῳδίας τοῦ κατὰ τὸν Σοφοκλέα Οἰδίποδος τοῦ Τυράννου, λεχθεὶς παρὰ Ἱεράλδον ἐπὶ τῆς σκηνῆς, ὃς ἔδρα Οἰδίποδα.

Τὸν Οἰδίπουν Τύραννον, ἐν πᾶσι σχεδὸν
Ὅς' ἔφερε τ' ἀριστεῖα τῆς τραγικῆς πάλαι,
Κριθέντα πάσαις τὸν πανάριστον ἐνδίκως
Προσήλθεθ' ἱμείροντες, οἱ μὲν εἰσιδεῖν,
Οἱ δὲ κλύειν, οἱ δ' αὖ ξυναρπάζειν φρενί·
Καὶ θαῦμά γ' ουδέν. ὅσιος ὢν ἀνὴρ φύσιν,
Ἀνόσια τολμᾷ, πατέρα μὴ κτάνῃ φυγὼν,
Κτείνει κάκιστά γ', ἥ τε δυστυχὴς τύχη
Τὸν εὖ παθόντα πανσυδεῖ διώλεσε·
Παρὰ τῷ ποιητῇ μή τις ἂν ψέγοι λόγους
Λεπτοὺς, διεσμιλευμένας τε φροντίδας,
Μήτε ἀπρεπές τι, μήτε καθημαξευμένον.
Ἐπαφρόδιτος κ' Ἀττικουτάτη φράσις
Σπουδὴν δ' ἔχουσα, τό, τε μεγαλοπρεπέστατον
Πρᾶξις, πρόσωπα σεμνὰ, παμμεγέθη πάθη,
Ἐλέου τε πλήρη παντα, θαύματος, φόβου,
Τῷ φασιν αὐτῷ μάλ' ὑποχωρῆσαι θρόνου
Εὐριπίδιον γλυκύτατον, ἔν τε ῥήμασι
Βρέμοντα γομφοπαγέσιν Αἴσχυλον σφόδρα.
Φιλοῦντα δ' ἔστι δῆλα τοῖς πολλοῖς δοκεῖν
Ἀρχαῖα ταῦτα, καὶ σαπρὰ, καὶ ῥηθέντα ἄγαν
Αἰνιγματωδῶς· τοὺς δ' ἀμαθεῖς ὧδ' ἐκμαθεῖν
Σκοτεινὰ δεινὸς ἀυτὸς οἰμώζειν λέγω.
Καὶ μάλα δικαίως· χρὴ γὰρ ἡσύχως ἔχειν,
Ὅστις βλέπων μὲν μὴ βλέπει, μὴ δ' ἐννοεῖ
Κλύων, τὰ δὲ παλαι τοῖς νέοις τεκμαίρεται.

tragedy of "The Revenge," in which Gerrald played the part of Zanga. The following letters, from Sir William Jones, Mr. Bennet Langton, Lord Stowell, and the late Sir Thomas Plumer, will shew the pains he took upon the occasion.

From Sir William Jones to Mr. Parr.

10th Nov. Duke-street.

I should have answered your letter before, if the Term had not intervened, which allows me no leisure from seven in the morning till midnight, when I am generally overpowered with sleep. I desire you to believe, that nothing can give me greater pleasure, than to be in any respect useful to you; but it is impossible to foresee what answer Garrick will give to my application, as I am by no means intimate with him, and never visited him, nor paid him any other attention than common

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Ὑμεῖς δὲ κισσὸν τῷ Σοφοκλείῳ κάρᾳ
Πλέξαντες αὐτοὶ πολλάκις σοφῷ σοφοί,
Εὐφήμ' ἴκοισθε, δότε δὲ συγγνώμης τυχεῖν
Ἃ 'ν τοῖς νέοισιν ὥσ' ἂν ἡμαρτημένα
Τραγικῶν μόλις τὰ σεμνὰ τραυλίζουσ' ἔπη
Τά θ' ἱπποβάμονα κομποφακελορρήμονα.
Γνώμης παρ' ὑμῖν ἐλπίδ' αἰσίου τρέφω
Ὅσοις θεαταῖς ἐπιτύχοιμι δεξίοις,
Γλώσσης θιγοῦσί τ' οὐκ ἐπιλίγδην Ἑλλάδος,
Ὧν καὶ χάριν, τὸ κατ' ἐμὲ, πράττεται τάδε.
Τὸν γὰρ φρονοῦντ' εὖ πιστέα 'στὶ ῥᾳδίως
Μικροῖς ὀπηδεῖν χαρίτα κ' οὐ πόνον μικρόν.
Πρὸς δ' οὐ καλῶς σκώπτοντας εἷς ἀρκεῖ λόγος·
Νέοιτο μῶμος ἐνθ', ἵν' ὁ φθόρος, τάχα.

This was in the hand writing of the learned modern Greek, * who was visiting me when my boys played the Œdipus Tyrannus. We were obliged now and then to talk in Greek, and I endeavoured as well as I could to pronounce by accents.

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* Nicolaides was patronized by Sir William Jones, for the purpose of his learned instructions. Mr. Paradise had introduced him.

civility. I will, however, most certainly write to him (for our club will not meet till the meeting of Parliament), and if he comply with my request, you will send a proper person to his theatre for the dresses, who will be answerable for returning them undamaged. Be so good as to let me know the precise hour in which the play will begin. I cannot leave till the afternoon, as Friday is a day for special cases in the Courts. If Garrick offers to lend the dresses it will be right to take them, even if you have procured others somewhere else. Farewell. Let me beg you to secure a bed for me at the inn on Friday night; for though Orme, I suppose, will return after the play, yet it is best to have a bed at all events.

From Mr. Bennet Langton to Mr. Parr.

DEAR SIR, *London, May* 8, 1776.

I received the favour of your very kind letter on Saturday night, and this morning have found an opportunity of seeing Mr. Garrick, and speaking to him of its contents. He says, as to the dresses, that he does not see how it can be managed, unless, either the young gentlemen that are to act could come to town, two or three at a time, (or any way, Sir, that you should judge most proper and convenient,) to have them tried on, or at least an account to be sent of their respective statures, that the sizes of the dresses may be adapted accordingly. If you will favour me then, Sir, with a line in answer to what Mr. Garrick says, I will impart it to him forthwith; and the business will, I dare say, be very readily dispatched. He returns you many thanks for your offer of a ticket, but says that it will not be in his power to give his attendance at the performance. I desire likewise to add my thanks, Sir, for your kind offer of ordering me a bed, which I do not see any thing to hinder me from availing myself of, unless it should unluckily happen that Lady Rothes (who is near her time) should fall ill just then, which I hope will not be the case. I have only to add that I am, with sincere respect, dear Sir,

Your obedient humble servant,

BENNET LANGTON.

To the Rev. Mr. Parr, at Stanmore, Middlesex.

From Lord Stowell to Mr. Parr.

MY DEAR SIR, *Oxford, May* 15, 1776.

I received your very obliging invitation with a sort of mixed sensation, in which I was much at a loss to say, whether shame or gratitude predominated. My long silence after your former favour furnished abundant matter for the first; and the continuance of your friendship and politeness after so discouraging a return ought, I am sure, to excite an ample proportion of the latter. I beg you to believe, that I feel them both in a due degree, and that I embrace with pleasure this opportunity of expressing to you how sensible I am of the mortifying contrast, which the kindness on your side makes, to the inattention on mine.

I have deferred answering your letter for a few days, that I might be able to give you a greater certainty about my coming. The case stands thus; my colleague, who has bad health, and by whose confinement to Oxford for some months I have enjoyed a good deal of enlargement, wishes to go out the beginning of next week; his health requires it, and I had too much the advantage of his confinement already, to wish him to continue it longer. If he should go out of town on Monday or Tuesday, it will be impossible for me to attend you; if not, depend upon it I shall fly to you with great avidity. The nature of the entertainment would afford me much pleasure, and the execution of it, I dare say, not less. If I should be prevented, may I consider your ticket as transferable to the next time of performance? I must have some consolation under my disappointment, if it should overtake me, which I most heartily deprecate. I beg you to believe me, dear Sir,

Your much obliged and sincere friend,

W. Scott.

From Thomas Plumer, Esq. to Mr. Parr.

DEAR SIR, *London, May* 7, 1776.

I am just favoured with your obliging letter, inclosing a ticket for your play, for which I beg you to accept my best thanks, and I shall not fail to do myself the pleasure of waiting

on you. But not satisfied with your kindness in granting me this favour, I have the presumption to make it a ground for soliciting another, and so lay myself under a second obligation, instead of discharging the first. The familiarity of friendship with which you have always honoured me, encourages my hope, and the experience of your goodness induces me to think you will be inclined on this occasion to pardon

Depositum ob amici jussa pudorem.

Without any more preface then, I am to beg the favour of you, if you have not filled your theatre, to permit a very worthy clergyman, Mr. Apthorpe * of Croydon, to be present at your play. He has a great veneration for antiquity, and wishes much to see the representation of what has often given him so much pleasure in the reading.

You will excuse the hurry I write in, having left Westminster Hall, and being bound for Lincoln's Inn.

You will be pleased to direct any future letter you may honour me with, to Mr. T. Plumer, jun. opposite Castle-court in the Strand. I am, dear Sir, your very obliged humble servant,

THOMAS PLUMER, Jun.

The choruses were omitted, but the dialogue was spoken in the most judicious and impressive manner by the different performers; the scenes were furnished by Mr. Foote, the dresses by Mr. Garrick, and some particular robes, which Parr's erudition pointed out to him as necessary in the representation of a Greek play, were prepared under his direction by his own family.

Parr has often expressed a wish that similar experiments were made in our public Seminaries, where detached and select speeches from the best writers are now delivered. His scholars, as he ob-

* Father of the most excellent lady of Dr. Butler of Shrewsbury.

served, with greater ease conquered the difficulties of which young men complain, when their minds are turned towards the dramatic writings of antiquity. Their attention to Greek phraseology and Greek metre was invigorated; their views of the plans and characters in the Greek drama became more correct and more enlarged; and their recitation in dialogue was found to be very efficacious in quickening their sensibility, strengthening their memory, and refining their taste.

Oppressed by the prevalence of the old and extensive interests, which supported the school at Harrow, Parr soon after the performance of his Greek play, became desirous to procure some settled situation. "Stanmore," says Mr. Roderick, "was the very worst place where he could have fixed himself. From the vicinity of the two places, a constant intercourse was kept up for two or more years between the boys of the two schools. This occasioned great irregularity—Parr's situation was one of extreme difficulty. The upper boys had followed him from attachment, but had not that awe for him that they had entertained for Dr. Sumner; and they probably conceived him under obligations to them, so that they took what liberties they pleased. Some would go to shoot on the heath, and it may be inferred from Maurice, that they sometimes traversed the country on horseback." Of Parr's habits Mr. Roderick gives the following account. "At Harrow he made but very little progress in smoking. The little time he had to spare from the business of the school and his pupils, he generally

devoted to reading and the composition of sermons, which were probably from their abstruseness never preached. On a night or two in the week he might smoke with Dr. Sumner. It was at Stanmore that he abandoned himself to smoking; probably at first, more from an affectation of singularity, and to imitate Dr. Sumner, than from any great liking. His favourite beverage was port wine and water: the latter he drank with his pipe at his own table when without company. I never knew him to transgress the bounds of the strictest sobriety; and as to ale, I do not remember that I ever saw him take so much as a single glass." Concerning his appearance at Stanmore, Mr. Roderick states that he brought upon himself the ridicule of the neighbourhood and passengers, by many foolish acts; such as riding in high prelatical pomp through the streets, on a black saddle, bearing in his hand a long cane or wand, such as women used to have, with an ivory head like a crosier, which was probably the reason why he liked it; at other times he was seen stalking through the town in a dirty striped morning-gown: "Nil fuit unquam, sic impar sibi." "Of Parr's manner of teaching," continues Mr. R., "if any fault was to be found with him for his manner of hearing the lessons, it was, that the observations made by him were too abundant and profound for a great part of the form. I do not think that the quantum of punishment inflicted at Stanmore was very excessive; but it was not equitably administered. In this instance he paid no regard to Horace, who says:

—— ‘ adsit
Regula peccatis, quæ pœnas irrogat æquas;
Ne scutica dignum horribili sectere flagello. ’

As the humour influenced him, he punished severely for many trifling offences; and connived at, or pardoned, such as were deserving of punishment. He had, too, his prejudices and partialities in regard to boys, as you must know that he had with regard to grown-up men. This led to injustice, which the boys could not but see and condemn.

“Those of Parr’s scholars who could appreciate his abilities, and did not suffer from his prejudices, must have esteemed him, and I have heard many of them, several years after they had left school, speak highly of him.” When he had lived more than 50 years after the time Mr. Roderick speaks of, I can assert the same thing. No great man ever existed without his haters. But Parr has suffered from the malice of one of his pupils only; and to shew in what estimation HE was held when a school-boy at Stanmore, I insert the letter of the boys of the sixth form, sent to the father of that pupil.

The late scandalous behaviour of your son hath at length occasioned this final resolution of his school-fellows. We have now determined to associate no longer with a person against whom suspicions of theft are so strong, and proofs of lying and scandal are so well attested. For the first, Sir, examine his library; for the second, we can ourselves bring innumerable instances. His malice, which is of the blackest and most extensive nature, hath continually been employed in endeavouring to violate the friendship of those whose esteem he could not obtain. But his motives of resentment are as dishonourable

as the acts themselves; we despise them both. If breaking into the bed-chamber and study of his master, examining his letters and papers; if mean familiarities with the servants; rifling their closets and drawers; if defamation, if deceit, if acts of the basest kind constitute the character of a villain, we know where the condemnation ought to fall.

Boys of the Sixth Form, Stanmore.

Any answer, either from your son or yourself, Sir, against these charges, will be duly attended to, as we doubt not abundantly to prove all our assertions, to your astonishment and his utter confusion.

"I have mentioned," continues Mr. Roderick, "that Mr. Smith, the Rector of Stanmore, was the warmest of Parr's friends when he came to that place. Afterwards a coolness, and at last a total interruption of all intercourse took place. The several steps that led to this, I do not now recollect; but it was probably occasioned by a superabundance of advice on the part of Smith, and an impatience of advice on the part of Parr. Mr. Smith was a man of great abilities, and had been brought up at Lichfield with Dr. Johnson and Garrick. He also possessed great wit, in the display of which he paid little regard to the feelings of those on whom it was exercised. It was therefore no wonder that he offended, and lost many of his best friends." This quarrel with his chief and most learned friend, did not add to Parr's comfort at Stanmore; and we may add, to the other causes assigned by him for wishing to leave it, the death of Marland one of his pupils, who was drowned by falling through the ice in a pond opposite to the house. But the true cause was the decline of the school.

As the upper boys went off, the supply was not equal to the loss, and he took refuge in a settled establishment at Colchester from the possible disappointment of being deserted at Stanmore, as the "Flower of Chivalry," that had followed him thither, dropped off. Moreover, it may be presumed, that the energy of his mind was imprisoned at Stanmore within limits too narrow. Consumed by an activity for which there was no proper outlet, like Napoleon in the piping times of peace, he ran himself into mischief. Far too inexperienced in the world and the world's law, to proceed regularly onward, he grappled with shadows, instead of grasping realities; and, defeated by the influence and power of "the neighbouring school," and by a continuation of unfortunate circumstances, he went to reside at Colchester in the spring of 1777.

Of his Stanmore pupils, Thomas Maurice, Peregrine Dealtry, Felix Vaughan, and George Downing, deserve especial notice, for they all continued friends of their Master to the last hour of their existence, and did honour to him by their virtues and their talents. Downing and Vaughan were both lawyers, and both died prematurely. Vaughan was fast rising into eminence as a barrister: his eloquence had placed him in the foremost ranks of his profession, and had he lived long enough, there can be no doubt he would have reaped its highest honours. He was the son of an honest tradesman, and not of a notorious politician and learned philo-

logist, as was asserted. On the only letter in the collection from him Parr has written the following words: "Felix Vaughan was for a short time my pupil, and long my friend. In eloquence at the bar he was nearly unrivalled; but his virtues outshone even his talents. He, Tweddell, and Baines, died far too soon."

George Downing also died young. As an orator, I believe, he had not distinguished himself; but he was considered by Parr to possess more extensive and solid knowledge than his schoolfellow.*

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* He is thus spoken of by Mr. Justice Park, in his Memoirs of William Stevens, Esq. page 116, 3d edition:

The very year in which this Club was instituted (Nobody's Club), proved fatal to one of them, George Downing, Esq. of Lincoln's-inn, barrister-at-law. His death was occasioned by a cold caught as an officer of the Light Horse Volunteers, in being exposed to the rain, during a whole night, on account of some riots in London. William Stevens, in a letter dated the 16th of October 1800, to Mr. Frere, thus deplores his death:

"But, alas! this talking of Parr reminds me (not reminds me, indeed, for he is continually in my mind,) of his pupil, our worthy friend George Downing, who is to be buried this day with military honours. The noble historian, in his character of Lord Falkland, observes, 'that the loss of that one man alone would make the Rebellion execrable to all posterity;' so may we say, Curse on the riots that were the occasion of poor George's death!"

In another letter to Bishop Skinner, of the 9th of December 1800, he says: "As you suspected, we have lost good George Downing. He was much missed at the meeting of some friends to dine with Nobody, at the Crown and Anchor, on the 29th of November. I never knew a man more univer-

Peregrine Dealtry was my own beloved friend. He was the son of Dr. Dealtry of York (a pupil

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sally lamented: he was not only a loss to his friends, as the Archbishop (Moore) observed to me, but he was a public loss."

Of such a man, whom I well knew, and much deplored, I thought it right to procure a fuller account; and from my excellent friend, the Rev. Dr. Gaskin, who long knew Mr. Downing and his family, and who, with the affection of a friend, and the sacred solicitude of a truly Christian pastor, attended his dying bed, I have received the following particulars of this much to be lamented man, of whose example the world was deprived when he had only attained thirty-seven years.

Mr. Downing was the son of the Rev. George Downing, one of the Prebendaries of Ely; and the intimacy of this young gentleman with Mr. Stevens arose from a friendship of long standing between the latter gentleman, Mr. Downing's father, Bishop Horne, and Mr. Jones. Young Mr. Downing received his classical education under the care of the celebrated Dr. Parr; and his eminent proficiency as a scholar, together with his amiable qualities as a pupil, ever were acknowledged by his learned preceptor. He was afterwards articled to Mr. Alston, a respectable attorney at Nayland, in Suffolk; and was there introduced to the more immediate attention and kind offices of the excellent Mr. Jones (whose life we have lately been so much contemplating), who was at that time Minister of the parish of Nayland, and in the full possession of his intellectual vigour. Mr. Jones was well qualified to appreciate classical accomplishments, and the qualities of a virtuous, unassuming, and well-principled youth; and Mr. Downing ever considered his introduction to Mr. Jones as one of the most important æras of his life. They became attached to each other; and, notwithstanding the disparity of years, Mr. Jones was rejoiced to witness such dispositions in the son of his old friend; and Mr. Downing spent all his leisure hours, whilst he remained at Nayland, in the society of Mr. Jones. Under such an instructor and guide, his religious and political principles were matured and firmly established, on a basis which never could be shaken,

of Boerhaave) of whom it was said, "so great was his reputation as a gentleman and a physician, that

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and his classical and philosophical studies were pursued with satisfaction and advantage.

Having completed the term of his engagement with Mr. Alston, and being eminently qualified for the higher and more important departments of the law, he entered himself as a student of the Honourable Society of Lincoln's-inn, and for some time practised as a conveyancer under the bar, to which he was afterwards called. In this intricate and dry department of the law, his abilities soon acquired celebrity amongst professional men, and business pressed upon him. The social qualities, the variety of attainments, the benevolent, amiable, and attractive manners of Mr. Downing could not fail to win the affections of a large circle of friends; amongst whom many of the hours that could be spared from business were spent, and who were ever cheered and delighted in his society. His attachment to the Constitution, in Church and State, and his high sense of loyalty, induced him to become a member, and soon after he was appointed an officer, of the corps of Light Horse Volunteers, in which corps he soon became a most popular character, and amongst whom he may be said to have lost his life. The pressure of professional business, intercourse with his friends, and frequent musters of his corps, began apparently to overpower his strength; and in an arduous service with the Volunteers, during a time of public alarm, in 1800, he caught a cold, which brought on an inflammatory fever, which in a few days terminated in his death, to the great concern of his afflicted wife (the daughter of his old master, Mr. Alston, of Nayland), his venerable parents, and a numerous circle of greatly attached friends. Dr. Gaskin, as a friend and clergyman, visited him on his dying bed, and, happy to find him in the faith, hope, and charity of the Christian, engaged to administer, on the following morning, to him, his afflicted wife, aud their common friend Mr. Stevens, the dying Christian's most comfortable viaticum; but before the hour for this solemn administration had arrived, his soul had fled to the place of departed spirits. The corps of

no one in Yorkshire could live or die without him." His mother, of the antient family of Langley in Yorkshire, has been characterised truly in an elaborate inscription for her monument, written by Parr. Of all men Peregrine was the most popular, without being at all the obsequious companion. To the fashionable world, to the quiet circle of his literary friends, or to the gay associates of his table, he was always the same; he was always cheerful, rational, and kind. This pure, single-hearted, true gentleman—this sincere and zealous friend—this generous benefactor, was cut off suddenly in the year 1814 by apoplexy.

Mr. Roderick was Parr's classical assistant at Stanmore. Mr. Drury had offered to attend him, and long hesitated; but it was his good fortune to choose the better part, and remain at Harrow, for he afterwards became master of the School, and accumulated a large fortune. "My French master (says Parr) was first madcap Henry, whose life I saved in France. He published a book on East India matters, under the fictitious name of Grose."

When this French master left Stanmore, and went to France, he was condemned to death in that country for enlisting soldiers in the service of Russia. "I had warned him (says Parr) before he went abroad.

Light Horse Volunteers, as a testimony of their affection and regard for their deceased companion, passed a resolution, requesting that his funeral might be a public one. His remains were accordingly buried, with military honours, in the parish church of St. Paul, Covent Garden, attended by the whole of that highly respectable body.

I discovered his case one Sunday in a newspaper, and dispatched instantly a messenger to Lord Dartmouth, Secretary of State, with the case, which he laid before the French ambassador and Lord Stormont. I got Sir William Jones to interfere. I saved the poor fellow's life, and had a polite letter from the Duke D'Aumont, Intendant of the Province."

Among the scholars at Harrow who distinguished themselves by learning, and by their friendship with the illustrious trio, I have already mentioned the name of Archdale, and now bring forward the name of Richard Warburton Lytton. His father, Mr Warburton, a native of Ireland, placed his son at the School under the care of Dr. Sumner, where, of course, he was distinguished for his talents, or he would not have become the friend of Jones, and the companion of Parr. Mr. Roderick was another companion, and still lives to bear witness to his multifold accomplishments. Mr. Warburton, in process of time, married Miss Lytton, of Whiteend, in Herts, and through her became possessed of a large estate. It was from this place the following letter to Parr is dated.

Fragment:

DEAR PARR, *Oct.* 1*st*, 1774.

Various have been the disputes among the philosophers and the learned men of all ages concerning the summum bonum, or the greatest degree of happiness attainable in this life. Now my opinion concerning it is, that, next to a good conscience, there is nothing which gives such a genuine, satisfactory, and unmixed delight, as, after having been shocked

and tormented by selfish, mean, and detestable people, to turn your eyes from the odious scene, and endeavour to lose the remembrance of it in the conversation of generous, disinterested, and learned friends. The contrast satisfies the judgment, refreshes and expands the imagination, &c. After I left you, I canvassed for Halsey for three or four days with great success, and make no doubt of his coming in. It is with no small impatience I expect the arrival of Christmas, and am in one sense turned school-boy again; for I keep as sharp a look-out for the holidays as any Stanmorian of them all, &c. Send me a full account of the success of your play, as well as the merit of the respective actors. Pray give my compliments to Œdipus, alias Zanga, alias Gerald, but whose proper name ought to be Proteus, as well on account of the variety of characters he assumes, as also from his quick transition from one to the other, and excellence in them all, &c. If I can be with you at Christmas, I shall not only feel peculiarly gratified myself, but likewise become very popular at Stanmore, and perhaps may have an address of thanks from both houses; and then, as you know my republican principles, I should go nigh to shake you on your throne. But of this no more, for fear I should make you alter your resolution. Price will certainly spend his Christmas here; and I intend to write to Williams to beg of him to come, and then we shall have a true Symposium.

Believe me, dear Parr, yours most affectionately and sincerely, R. W. Lytton.

With Mr. Paradise, who had been the British Consul at Salonichi, he became acquainted through Sir William Jones, and also with Mr. Nicoläides, a learned Greek, nephew of the Patriarch of Constantinople, who fled from some massacre of the Greeks.

Paradise was the particular friend of Sir William Jones, who twice undertook long journies, one a voyage to America, which however was prevented by his own appointment as Judge in Bengal, on his

account, and to serve him, if possible, in his pecuniary embarrassments.

The first of the letters was written when embarking for France, the second for America.

The first will be hereafter copied. The second is dated

DEAR PARR, *Dover, 19th June*, 1782.

If I avail myself of your permission to answer your letter *at my leisure*, I clearly see that I shall hardly be able, as I have no prospect of leisure, to answer it at all; I therefore seize a short interval, which the wind and tide give me at this place, to assure you that my good offices, as well as good wishes, will never be wanting on any occasion in which it may be in my power to prove my sincere regard for you. But, in truth, you greatly overrate my power, and particularly my influence with Administration. It happens, rather whimsically, that he with whom I have certainly *most* influence (if any thing so inconsiderable admit the degrees of more and less) is the very man whom you, and for reasons wholly unknown to me, so much dislike. I wish that Lord Shelburne were as well known to you as he is both *known and liked* by me.

For God's sake, do not be precipitate in forming opinions of men from public reports or papers, and without any *personal* knowledge of them. With the Chancellor I have so little weight, that I have been *four years* vainly striving to obtain even a *refusal* (which would have been more eligible than suspense) of a favour. The Duke of Manchester I barely know by sight, though I have dined with him at Lord Mulgrave's. Lord Rockingham, and his powerful friends, I know and respect, but dare not yet solicit preferment for my friends. The Attorney General (whom I sounded last week) told me that he had been two years trying in vain to procure a living for a man whom he strongly recommended to his intimate friend the Chancellor. These are not unfriendly excuses, they are plain facts; but rest assured that on the first opportunity I will speak of your *moral* and *literary* character in just, and consequently very high terms! As to your politics, it will be useless, if not

dangerous, to mention them. O! my friend, μή σε θελγέτωσαν αἱ ἀνέμωναι τῶν λόγων: I entreat you not to play with vast questions, for the sake of shewing how great a master you are of round and forcible diction. My opinion, expressed in my last letter to you, was founded on your own repeated declarations at Cambridge, *in my hearing*. I had not then read your Sermon,* I had only cast my eye on the first and last periods. I have since read it attentively; and, if it can give you any pleasure to know it, I think it a very masterly composition, abounding with fine *moral* and *religious* sentiments. The *political* tendency of it I neither do nor can like; and a paragraph or two in pp. 24, 25, &c. I think highly exceptionable on account of their δεινότης. The reasoning in many parts appears to my comprehension fallacious, especially in your favourite doctrine of *unanimity*, a word which ministers use to express a tame acquiescence in all their measures. This you did not mean; but, without perceiving it, you supplied the νεκύιαν with arguments against us. Since, however, you shew an inclination to defend all this, I will neither arraign it, for that were unfriendly, nor pretend to approve it, for that would be dishonest. When we meet, we will talk and laugh, and argue and promote *good fellowship*, as long as you please. My political system shall never relax my efforts to serve you: and when I return from *America* (which will be, I hope, before Christmas) I will catch every rising gale that may waft you to an easy and respectable retirement. Not that my hopes are sanguine, until my friend Lord Althorp† shall have acquired more influence in the State than can be expected in so young a minister, though the wisest and best young man I ever knew.

America? you will say. Yes, my friend, I shall sail in an hour or two with Paradise; and, on our return, we will explain to you the nature and object of our voyage; at present, with cordial affection, I must bid you farewell!

I am yours ever, W. Jones.

Though zealous and friendly to Mr. Paradise, Sir

* Phileleutherus Norfolciensis.

† The present Earl Spencer.

William Jones did not take him out to India, and I refer to Lord Teignmouth's Narrative for more concerning him. The only letter I find of Mr. Paradise to Parr is dated from Richard Paul Jodrell's, Esq. M. P. at Lewknor, in 1790, in which he addresses him "my invaluable friend."

The following notices of Mr. Nicolaides are curious, and will sufficiently characterize this learned Greek to the reader:

To the Reverend Mr. Samuel Parr, Stanmore.

MY GOOD FRIEND,

I intended to write lass week, and let you know that Elmsley have promised me to send you your books. Whom i went to see last trursday, and put him in mind of it. he told me then, that intended to send them that evening. Mr. Paradise arrived from Southampton last tuesday to London. he did not go abroad as he intended.

j Remember when j was at your house to have read a verse of Menander, in which the Greek particle γὰρ being long, dr. Bentlee corrects it with ὅτι. Because, he says, γὰρ is always short, and never common, and you told me that it is constantly short. then be so good as to correct dr. Bentlee's mistake, for the prince of the poets Homer in other verses uses it short, and in the following Long. and then we may conclude, that it is common.

Ἤθελε δ' ὁ τλήμων Ὀδυσεὺς καταδῦναι ὅμιλον
Τρώων· αἰεὶ γὰρ οἱ ἐνὶ φρεσὶ θυμὸς ἐτόλμα. Il. κ' 231, &c.

*Πολλὸν γὰρ ἀπάνευθε νεῶν μάρναντο θοάων. ρ' 403.

[The other quoted passages are omitted.]

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* Γὰρ is made long by the power of the digamma, in every instance but this from Il. ρ'. 403, where it is long by the ictus metricus. See Dr. Maltby's Tractatus de Prosodiâ, prefixed to his 2d edition of Morell's Thesaurus, pp. xxvi. xx. London, 1824.

I beg the favour of you to send me your aprobation of it, or disapprobation, for my information. because our grammarians tell us thus—'Αρ ληκτικὸν ὀνομάτων ἢ Συνδέσμων βραχύ—Νέκταρ, αὐτὰρ—ὁ δε γὰρ, ὁ κὰρ, καὶ ὁ ψὰρ, κοινὰ ἐστί. But I add αὐτὰρ κοινὸν—ὥπασαν· αὐτὰρ οἱ Προῖτος κάκὰ μήσατο θυμῷ Z. 157.

j beg your pardon for the liberty that I take with you concerning such trifling subjects. Be so good as to give my best compliments to Mrs. Parr. Compliments to Mr. Roderic and Mr. Shillito. Your most affectionate J. NICOLAIDES.

Sept. 25, 1775, *London.*

Dr. Jonson is gon to france with Mr. and Mrs. Threile and Mr. Beretti.

That the learned modern Greek had some knowledge of the metrical science of his forefathers, appears from the following letter:

'Ο Νικολαΐδης τῷ Παρίῳ τὸ εὖ Πράττειν.

'Εδεξάμην τά, τε Δρουρίου πρὸς σὲ γράμματα, καὶ τά γ' ἐπὶ τούτοις σὰ πρὸς ἐμέ. Χρυσοῦν τε 'Αγγλικὸν ἤμισυν ἐν αὐτοῖς πρὸς τῷ ἑνὶ, σταλέντα παρὰ τῶν ἐν τῇ χαρωνίτιδι σχολῇ φιλολόγων ἀνδρῶν τῆς οὐκ εἰς μακρὰν τοῦ 'Αλκινόου χάριν ἐμοὶ ἐκδοθησομένης βίβλου. Ὑπὲρ ὧν σοί τε πρῶτον τῆς συστάσεως, κἀκείνοις τε τῆς φιλοφροσύνης πάνυ πολλὰς οἶδα χάριτας, πέμπω τε ἤδη σοι τὰς λεγομένας ὑπογραφὰς, ἵν' ἔχῃ ἕκαστος λαβὼν τὴν αὐτοῦ. Πρότερον δ' οὐκ ἔπεμψα αὐτὰς, ἐπιλαθόμενος, ὡς οὐκ ὤφελον. Τὸ δ' αἴτιον, θεωρία τε, καὶ διατριβὴ περὶ τὰ ᾀεὶ ὡσαύτως ἔχοντα, τὰ ὄντα, καὶ τὰ ἁπλᾶ, ὥς ἐνίοτε καὶ τῶν συνθέτων ἀμνημονεῖν, οὐ μενοῦν τῆς τροφῆς, οἷα τὸν Καρνεάδην λόγος. Καὶ ταῦτα μὲν παιδιᾶς χάριν.

Περὶ δὲ τοῦ Γὰρ, ἰδού σοι πάλιν ἐγὼ, ὅπως περὶ αὐτοῦ γνώμης ἔχω.

Φημὶ οὖν πρῶτον, ὡς οὐ δῆλον τὸ τὸν Ὅμηρον χρήσασθαι τῷ διγάμματι τῷ Αἰολικῷ, *F*, πρὸ τοῦ οἱ, καὶ ἄλλων φωνηέντων δασυνομένων· οὐ γὰρ ἦν ἀνάγκη· ἄλλως τε καὶ ἀμφιβόλου δὴ ὄντος, εἰ Αἰολεὺς ὁ 'Ανὴρ ἦν τὸ γένος.

Δεύτερόν. Ὅτι τὸ δασὺ παρὰ τοῖς λοιποῖς τῶν 'Ελλήνων πνεῦμα, καὶ τὸ Αἰολικὸν αὐτὸ Δίγαμμα, οὐχ ὡς στοιχεῖα παρελαμβάνοντο

(ὥσπερ οὐδὲ παρὰ Ῥωμαίοις τὸ Η) ὥστε τὸ πρὸ συμφώνου, καὶ διγάμματος, ἢ δασέος ἐν ἀρχῇ τῆς ἑπομένης λέξεως, φωνῆεν εἶναι μακρὸν ᾀεὶ, ὡς αὐτὸς φῄς· εἰ γὰρ, πλεῖσται ἂν, καὶ βραχεῖαι συλλαβαὶ ἢ κοιναὶ εἵησαν οὕτω ἀεὶ μακραί· οἷον ἡ ες ἐπὶ τοῦ

Ἄλλοι μὲν ῥα θεοί τε καὶ ἀνέρ ε ς ἱπποκορυσταί. Ἰλ. β′. ς. α′.

καὶ ἡ μ ο ς ἐπὶ τοῦ

Εὗδον παννύχιοι, Δία δ' οὐκ ἔχε νήδυ μ ο ς ὕπνος. Ἰλ. β′. ς. β′.

καὶ ἡ ο ς καὶ ν ο ς ἐπὶ τοῦ

Εὕδεις Ἀτρέος υἱὲ δαΐφρο ν ο ς, ἱπποδάμοιο. Ἰλ. β′. ς. κγ′.

καὶ ἡ ο ν ἐπὶ τοῦ

Οὐ χρὴ παννύχι ο ν εὕδειν βουληφόρ ο ν ἄνδρα. Ἰλ. β′.

οὐδὲ γὰρ εἴποις ἂν τὴν ο ν τελευταίαν συλλαβὴν ἐπὶ τοῦ παννύχιον ἢ βουληφόρον εἶναι μακρὰν ᾀεὶ διὰ τὸ ἑπόμενον δασὺ τοῦ εὕδειν (ἢ δίγαμμα θατέρου), ἀλλ' ὅτι "Παντὸς μέτρου ἀδιάφορός ἐστιν ἡ τελευταία συλλαβὴ, ὥστε δύνασθαι εἶναι αὐτὴν, καὶ βραχεῖαν, καὶ μακράν."—(Ἡφεστ. σ. 14.)

Ἀλλὰ μὴν αἱ τοιαῦται βραχεῖαι συλλαβαὶ οὐ μηκύνονται διὰ τὸ ἑπόμενον δασὺ, ἢ δίγαμμα Αἰολικὸν, ἄρα ἀμφότερα, τό,τε δασὺ φημὶ, καὶ τὸ δίγαμμα, οὐ στοιχεῖα· οὐδὲ σύμφωνα, ἄρα οὐδὲ μεθ' ἑτέρου συμφώνου οὐτινοσοῦν μηκύνουσι τὰς πρὸ αὐτῶν συλλαβὰς· ὥστε οὐδὲ μετὰ τοῦ ρ ἐν τῷ γ ά ρ. Ἔτι οἱ Αἰολεῖς τὸ δίγαμμα προέταττον μόνον τῶν ὀνομάτων ἀπὸ φωνηέντων ἀρχομένων κατὰ τὸ

> "Nominum multa inchoata litteris vocalibus
> Æolicus usus vertit, et digammon præficit."

τοῦ Τερεντιανοῦ Μαούρου, οὐχὶ δὲ καὶ ἐπιῤῥημάτων, ἢ ἄλλων τινῶν μορίων· διὸ οὐδὲ τοῦ ἀπάνευθε, ἐπιῤῥήματος ὄντος, τὸ δίγαμμα προέταττον, αὐτὸς δ' ἔχεις τὸ

> "Πολλὸν γὰρ ἀπάνευθε νεῶν μάρναντο θοάων."
> Ἰλ. ρ′. ς. 403.

Καὶ μὴν, δοθέντος καὶ τοῦ, ὅτι ὁ γὰρ ᾀεὶ βραχὺς κατὰ χρόνον, ἀλλ' οὐδαμοῦ ἂν εὑρεθείη τοιοῦτος καὶ κατά γε τὸν σὸν λόγον αὐτὸν· ἡ γὰρ ἑπομένη λέξις ἤ τοι ἀπὸ συμφώνου· καὶ τότε μακρὸς διὰ τὰ δύω σύμφωνα, ἢ ἀπὸ φωνήεντος ἄρχεται, καὶ τότε πάλιν προταττομένου διγάμματος Αἰολικοῦ κατὰ τὸν σὸν λόγον, ἢ δασέος (εἰ τύχοι γε ἡ λέξις δασὺ ἀπαντοῦσα πνεῦμα) (ἅπερ μηκύνουσι τὰς πρὸ αὐτῶν συλλαβὰς, ὡς αὐτὸς γνώμης ἔχεις), μακρὰς ἔσται καὶ διὰ ταῦτα. Ἀεὶ ἄρα ὁ Γὰρ μακρὸς ἂν χρόνον, οὐδέποτε ἄρα

ὁ Γὰρ βραχύς. Τοῦτο δὲ οὐκ ἀληθές· ἔστιν ἄρα ὁ Γὰρ κοινὸς. Ὅπερ ἔδει δεῖξαι.

Περὶ δὲ τοῦ, ὅτι πᾶν σύμφωνον τελικὸν βραχὺ ἐστιν (ὡς αὐτὸς φῄς) φύσει, ἐπέχω· οὐδεὶς γὰρ τῶν πάλαι εἴρηκε πώποτε τὸ τοιοῦτον (ὅσον γε ἐμὲ εἰδέναι) μάλιστα δὲ τῶν συμφώνων εἰρήκασι τὰ μὲν εἶναι ἄφωνα, πάντῃ ψόφον δὲ ποιοῦντα, τα δὲ φωνητικώτερα, οἷον τὰ ἡμίφωνα, ὥστε εἶναι καὶ ἐν αὐτοῖς διαφοράν τινα, ἣν οἱ ποιηταὶ τοῖς ῥυθμικοῖς καταλείπουσιν ἐνασχολουμένοις περὶ τὴν μοῦσαν· ἀλλὰ τοῦτό γε οὐδὲν πρὸς τὸν ἡμέτερον λόγον.

Περὶ τῶν Περιοδικῶν στίχων σοῦ ἀποκριναμένου, οὐδὲν ὅλως ξυνήκα· (οὐ γὰρ δύναμαι ἀεὶ τὰ σὰ ἀναγινώσκειν γράμματα·) κέλευε οὖν ἄλλῳ ὑπὲρ σοῦ τὰ σὰ πρὸς ἐμὲ τοῦ λοιποῦ γράφειν· τὰ νεωστὶ πάντα ξυνῆκα ἀκριβῶς· συγγνώμην ἔχε μοι περὶ τῶν ἠρημένων· δέομαι. Ἔρρωσο.

Τῷ ᾳψ'όε'. Πυανεψιῶνος, Ζ' ἐπὶ δεκάτῃ.

Compliments to Mrs. Parr.

I conclude the following note was written after Dr. Drury was admitted to the school at Harrow, for I do not know that Dr. Parr attended the speeches in Heath's time:

"Mr. Nicolaides presents his respectful compliments to Mr. Parr (the *σκοτεινὸς* for his handwriting) and is very sorry for not being able to attend him to the speeches at Harrow, otherwise he would think himself happy, not only for his respectable friend's company, but moreover in perceiving himself in the company of so many learned Ἀβαριδῶν (if he is allowed to call them so, notwithstanding the difference of the bloud), using the language of Pythagoras, Abaris's good friend."

The following Latin letter shall close my account of Parr and his friends while at Stanmore:

Ricardus Lytton Samueli Parr S. P. D.

Magnum certe mi Samuelis et pene inauditum facinus aggredior: tibi enim linguam Latinam prope tanquam Tullius

ipse callenti, literulas hasce meas parum Latinas mitto. Quoque magis tam parvuli hominis audaciam mireris, etiam fidenter mitto: certo sciens te semper ad scribentis animum, potius quam ad linguam, spectare. Neque dubito quin tu quamvis grammaticorum qui nunc vivunt optimus, culpeculis tamen meis, solœcismis scilicet erroribusque grammaticis tanto facilius sis condonaturus, quanto severius in vitæ meæ culpas semper animadversurus sis. In legendis interpretandisque literis tuis duos fere integros dies contrivi, multoque labore, maximâ industriâ, summâque animi intentione eo usque progressus sum, ut jam epistolæ tuæ sensa me intelligere crediderim. Quæ de Nicolaide nostro, bono, et percrudito viro dicis bene et vere dicta sunt. Vir probus enim mihi videtur, doctus etiam, ingenuæque indolis. In iis, quæ a te de me dicuntur, amicitiæ tuæ magis quam veritati consuluisse videris. Magna tamen utilitas ex commendatione tua mihi, uti spero, continget. Dum enim summis viribus enitor, ne me temere et omnino immeritis laudibus videaris extulisse, hoc ipso conatu melior, cultior, atque etiam forsan ornatior evasurus sum. Desunt mihi verba ad exprimendam indignationem meam in istos nefarios homines, qui non tam regendæ, quam obruendæ, reipublicæ curam sibi susceperunt. O miseri cives! quibus pristina libertas a majoribus nostris tam strenue, tam viriliter propugnata, oblivioni jam mandata est. Contra, O vera Britannorum soboles, heroes qui antiquo patrum nostrorum more, paci, divitiis, vitæ ipsi libertatem anteponendam censuistis, vobis omnia fauste feliciterque eveniant! Quæ mihi Nicolaidi nostro dicenda mandavisti, ea illi omnia fideliter enarravi: qui hoc tibi responsum ita mihi Græce dictavit. *Ὁ ἐξ Ἠπείρου Νικολαΐδης ἀσπάζεταί σε ἀπὸ ψυχῆς, χάριτας φιλοφροσύνης τῆς σῆς πρὸς αὐτὸν οὐκ ὀλίγας ὁμολογῶν σοι. Ἀπαρεῖ δὲ αὐτὸς πρὸς Λονδινὸν ἐντεῦθεν ἐν οὐ πολλαῖς ἡμέραις, σέ τε ὀψόμενος [ὃν μάλιστα ὑπεραγαπᾷ] αὐτοσὲ ἔλθειν. Καὶ τῇ αὐτῇ αὖ ἡμέρᾳ οἶκαδε πάλιν, εἰ δυνατὸν, ἐπανελθεῖν διανοεῖται.* Jamque vale, mi Samuelis! neque enim amplius sufficiunt vires. Paradisum nostrum, optimæ indolis hominem meo nomine quam amice poteris salutes oro. Jonesium etiam nostrum de omnibus præsertim de me optime meritum certum facias, me illi arctius officiis devinctum esse, quam unquam fuit Pyladi Orestes aut Pythiæ Damon.

Ad Pricæum jam scripsi. Tibi, uxori, et filiolæ tuæ, a D. O. M. omnia fausta precor.

Dabam Balneopoli, 19. *Feb.* 1776.

P. S. Mihi Anglice rescribas vehementer oro. Si enim aliter faceres, summam industriam, patientiamque meam superaverit labor ille stupendus epistolæ tuæ legendæ. Sin autem Latine rescribendi te magna lubido invaserit, epistolam tuam postquam scripseris, Shillitoo aut cuivis alii scribæ solerti transcribendam tradas—Jamque iterum vale.

Parr had no fixed clerical duty; he preached occasionally for Mr. Smith, and very often for the Rev. Walter Williams of Pinner, and once had the care of the Church for a month at a time. Whilst at Harrow, he served the church at Kingsbury from Christmas till Easter 1769, immediately after his ordination. His duties in the school at Harrow and Stanmore fully occupied his time.

Whilst at Stanmore, Parr published nothing, except in a review or magazine, some criticisms.

His eldest daughter, Sarah Anne, was born at Stanmore Dec. 31, 1772.

CHAP. II.

From 1777 *to* 1786.

I HAVE alluded to the causes which more immediately influenced Parr's determination to leave Stanmore, and to become a candidate for the school at Colchester.

Through Bennet Langton Esq. he applied to Dr. Samuel Johnson for letters of recommendation, which were kindly granted, as will be seen by the following letters of Mr. Langton, and Mr. Boggis, one of the Aldermen of Colchester:

Mr. Bennet Langton to Mr. Parr, dated

DEAR SIR, *London, Feb. 5th,* 1777.

I hope you will have received, when this arrives, the letter I did myself the pleasure of writing to you on Monday, wherein I mentioned my intention of applying to Dr. Johnson, as you desired. Yesterday morning Mr. Paradise and I went to his house, and were informed that he was expected before dinner in town from Mr. Thrale's; we staid in that part of the town as late as we conveniently could, but as he was not then come we left word that we should call again as this morning, which we did, and found him only then just arrived. It is, I assure you, dear Sir, but doing justice to his expressions, on our application to say, that nothing could be more friendly than they were. He said he knew of few, if of any, that were so well entitled to success as yourself in an application for presiding over a seminary of education; and expressed

the opinion of your possessing all the kinds of learning requisite for that purpose, in very high terms of praise. He said we might apprise you of his intention of immediately complying with your request of writing, and seemed anxious to do it in such a manner as might most fully evince the sincerity of the testimony he should give. I remain, dear Sir, your affectionate humble servant, BENNET LANGTON.

From Thomas Boggis, Esq. to Mr. Parr.

DEAR SIR,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your favour of the 30th ult. Shall be glad to hear of your being rid of your cold. I have now to inform you, I have fixed the election for a master of our free Grammar-school to be on Wednesday, the 19th of this month; at which time, if convenient to you, shall be glad to see you here, when I make no doubt shall be able to give you joy of being elected. I had the honour of a letter this day from your friend Dr. Johnson on your behalf. Have had a meeting of our Corporation, the members of which all wish you success; and I remain, dear Sir, your humble servant, THOMAS BOGGIS.

P. S. I hope to see you at my house when you come over.

By Dr. Nathaniel Forster he was received with open arms, and was offered curacies in addition to his school in the following letter:

Dr. Forster to the Rev. Mr. Parr.

SIR, *Colchester, 29th Jan.* 1777.

Having the pleasure to find that you are now without a competitor for our school (Mr. Causley having declined), I beg leave to mention to you that I have the care of two churches in this town, for which I wish to have a Curate. One of them is small, and very near you; the other not large, but at the distance of near a mile. The duty is service at each

once a Sunday. The weekly duty I have for many years past done myself, but am now under a necessity of giving up the business of burials, on account of my gouty feet. These, therefore, must be undertaken by the Curate. And I am also obliged to load him with the buryings of a third parish in the town, annexed to that which I serve myself. Upon a calculation for seven years past, I found the average number in the three parishes to be 54 in the year. I still mean to do all the other weekly duty. I now give £50 a year for the service of the two churches on Sundays, and I mean to make the salary 50 guineas, in consideration of the additional duty above-mentioned; any part of which, however, I shall be always ready to do when I am able. If you choose employment of this kind, I am confident you will meet with nothing so convenient to you in this neighbourhood. I have, indeed, declined engaging myself with any gentleman for these churches since Mr. Smythies's death, upon the idea that they might be convenient to his successor; and shall still keep them open for you, if you have any thought of closing with my proposal. I must, however, beg the favour of an answer, I do not mean a *categorical* one, as soon as possible, and am, Sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

NAT. FORSTER.

The names of the two churches are Trinity and St. Leonard's.

Parr succeeded the Rev. Mr. Smythies at Colchester in the mastership of the school, and went to reside there in the spring 1777. He repaired the school house; he took a neighbouring house for the reception of scholars; and though the success of his endeavours to establish a flourishing seminary was very inconsiderable, he always looked back with pleasure to that period of his life.

But at Colchester, no more than at Harrow, or at Stanmore, was he perfectly at peace. He had a contest with the Trustees of the School concerning

a lease; and on this subject printed a pamphlet, which, however, he never published. Sir William Jones was his legal adviser, and to him the sheets of the pamphlet were sent, as they came from the press; and his remarks are constantly "too violent, too strong:" he seems to have considered it a trifling concern. The pamphlet is marked with all the peculiarities of Parr's style; its vigour, its vehemence, its clearness, its pointed antithesis, and its copious illustration, and splendid imagery. The pamphlet itself, being written on a temporary and local subject, will not be re-printed. The following extracts exemplify its character and manner:

That day, indeed, I expected to find a day of fierce contention, and therefore I had arrayed myself in a panoply of the trustiest armour; in the breastplate of innocence, the shield of the law, the sword of indignation, and the helmet of intrepidity. When I first entered the lists against these hardy combatants, I determined to throw away the scabbard, and, firmly as I confided in the strength of my cause, I imagined that my antagonists would not yield me the *dulcem sine pulvere palmam*, that they would dispute every inch of ground with me, and at least save their credit, by retreating with their weapons in their hands. But my expectations were altogether disappointed; instead of the fury of a contest, we had not even the mockery of a skirmish; not one *threat* was denounced, not one argument was produced, nor one allusion was dropped upon the offensive topic of the agreement.

The sum of £483 would furnish no despicable portion for the daughter of a clergyman; it would make up such a capital for any man of the meanest extraction, as, with the concurrence of industry, good fortune, and avarice, might enable him to amass daily wealth in his town house; to enjoy occasional relaxation, the *otium cum dignitate*, in his country house; to buy estates, to plant parks, to govern a borough, and even

aspire to a seat in Parliament, for himself or his heir. The learned reader has no doubt caught fire from the indignation of Juvenal, who in such glowing colours, has described the rapid exaltation, and overbearing insolence of Licinus:

Patricios omnes opibus cum provocet unus,
Quo tondente gravis juveni mihi barba sonabat.—P. 25.

"Personalities that escape a man in the turbulence of debate, should not be tortured upon the rack of construction."—P. 25.

"It is hardly necessary to tell the reader that in the learned languages, and in the vernacular, the word King is often applied to those persons, whose heads were never invested with a diadem. Tiresias calls the chief men of Thebes Θήβης ἄνακτες. (Antig. Soph.) Horace, speaking of the patrons of his time, says,

Reges dicuntur multis urgere culullis, &c.

They who are deeply skilled in the history of this country, must have heard of the two Kings of Brentford, of King Cole, and King —— *Hiatus valde deflendus.*"—P. 27.

"Upon former occasions, when the rights of the Master were invaded by oppressive and treacherous combinations, he has found a safe asylum in the protection of the Visitor. If, therefore, there be any persons who sport with the rights which they ought to defend, it may not be unseasonable to remind them, that in some luckless hour, they may be called upon to contend with the penetration, the fortitude, and the integrity of a Lowth. In his bosom, the clamours of a rabble, and the prejudices of a party, will awaken no other emotions than those of contempt. Against his qualifications, the resistance of ostentatious wealth, and of mistaken law, will be weak and unavailing.

Nil desperandum est Teucro duce, et auspice Teucro."
P. 29.

The following is the only letter of the Bishop of

Cloyne, written to Parr whilst he was at Colchester, in the collection:

DEAR PARR, *Chester, July 23d.*

I have received several letters from you, on various occasions, which I have not till now had time to answer. I have been advised, congratulated, scolded, and trusted with commissions; and am so distracted between compliment and abuse, that I know not which to examine first. You send me your congratulations on my recovery from a fever, and for which attention I return my thanks. It was of the scarlet kind, attended by its usual symptom, a putrid sore throat, and was very severe while it lasted. I am happy to inform you of my entire recovery. You attack me in another letter on what you call the decline of my friendship, and assert, in defence of the charge, that I do not write often to Colchester. But surely I can be a sincere friend without being an exact correspondent. You know the very high rank that Jones holds in my affections, though we have not exchanged a line these three years; but it is not worth while to produce either example or argugument against a charge, which you do not mean yourself to be taken seriously. Be satisfied, I shall never part with my friendship for you till the hour when I part with my existence. You employ me also in negotiating an exchange of your vote with one of Pearce's friends. I believe it is the etiquette of such exchanges for the parties to be *both absent*. I know no instance where a resident man has given up his vote to keep away an absentee, who may be hindered by a thousand accidents from coming at all; and I suspect it would not be approved of by the candidate to whom the resident vote is engaged. There is also another objection; it is so early that very few persons have given promises to either. If, under these disadvantages, I can find any man who will agree to the terms, you may depend upon my engaging him. Pearce will carry the election. The papers will inform you that the prize for the Greek Ode came to Emanuel; and you may easily conjecture it was for the composition I sent you. Your hint of imitating the rough Sapphic measure shewed great taste; but I overruled it from my knowledge of the judges. The event strengthens my

opinion. Dr. Cooke declared himself pleased with the flow of the verses; and one of the first characters in the University complimented me on the success of my pupil, observing how well the verses ran off. I foresee your indignation. One of the prizes for the A. B. was gained this year by your friend Rennell,* of King's. His composition, though read with too much action, was one of the very best for Latinity that I have ever heard since my admission at Cambridge.

Yours very sincerely, W. Bennet.

At Colchester, Parr resumed the intention of taking priest's orders, and was ordained by Bishop Lowth in the summer of 1777. His curacies were at the Hythe and Trinity Church, Colchester, where the learned Dr. Nathaniel Forster was incumbent, and the following letter informs us of the Bishop's opinion of his qualifications.

Extract of a letter from Bishop Lowth to Dr. Wheeler, Professor of Divinity, Oxford:

Mr. Parr may come to me at any of the usual times of ordination. He need not fear that his delicacy will be hurt by the mode of examination. Mr. Jones gives so good an account of his abilities, that a conference with my Chaplain for form's sake will be sufficient. Pray present my compliments to Mr. Jones. I suppose Mr. Parr has a title in my Diocese, &c.

At Colchester he had a considerable addition to the number of his scholars. Several of those who were placed under his care at Stanmore accompanied him thither, and out of sight of the rival school, his spirits were revived and refreshed by better hopes and fairer prospects. Of his merits as a teacher at

* The present venerable Dean of Winchester, of whom Dr. Parr speaks so highly in his Letter to Dr. Milner, pp. 49, &c.

Colchester, the following distinguished testimony of that exquisite scholar, the Rev. Thomas Twining, has by good fortune fallen into my hands. From the marks on the paper, it seems to have been prepared for the press. It consists of extracts of letters to his brother Mr. Richard Twining, who was to send his son to Parr.

Sept. 3d, 1778.

When you talk of Mr. Parr, I confess you meet my wishes. I have often thought of it, but have been restrained from saying anything, from the dread of advising *wrong* in a matter of so much consequence, and in which (as in inoculation) the inclinations of *parents* ought to *lead*. Of Mr. Parr's abilities, learning, taste, manner of teaching, and finding out the dispositions, talents, and characters of boys, I have the highest idea. I have never met with such a man yet in the shape of a schoolmaster. How he is in point of discipline and severity I cannot pretend to say; I have been *told* that he flogs too much, but I doubt, those from whom I heard it, think *any* use of punishment too much. In conversing with *him*, I have heard him disapprove of *beating children*. I have heard him say that *words* were his worst rod; that what all his boys most dreaded was his talking to them, and shaming them before the whole school. This also is a delicate instrument of punishment, and injudiciously used, or carried too far, may do more harm than good. But I can hardly imagine that a man of his penetration and quickness in discerning the different tempers and characters of boys, should use this without proper discretion and distinction. Upon the whole, all I know is, that had I a son, and determined to send him to any school, I should certainly send him to Mr. Parr's. If one really means that a boy should learn to any *purpose* what one *sends* him *to* learn, surely it is of great importance that the master should be a man of sense and taste, able to convey those into the boys he teaches, (if not deficient in capacity,) and give them a relish of what they read. *This* I am persuaded is the case of Mr. Parr; the very reverse was the case with my master, and is, I doubt not, with *most*. An-

other reason that inclines me to wish Richard under his care, is the great regard and esteem which I am sure Mr. Parr has for me; for, among other of his good qualities, he is a man of sincere and strong attachments. Richard seems to have a very good capacity, and is certainly amiable in his temper. If you resolve upon this step, I will write about it (if you choose it) to Mr. Parr; and if you, who know Richard's temper and disposition much better than I can do, have any particular hints to give, I will convey them. The circumstance of *Norwich*, is, I suppose, agreeable to my sister and you. I *now* wish, more than ever, that Mr. Parr had continued here.

August 11, 1780.

I heartily wished for you last Friday, when Mr. Parr and the Forsters were here. The day passed most pleasantly. The party was bien assortie; and Mr. Parr in high *εὐθυμία*, as he himself said; and full of that social and convivial spirit that is so charming a thing to me, when it animates a cultivated and well-stocked mind, and sets sense, knowledge, and fancy, a flowing; and so melancholy a thing, when it produces nothing but barren jollity and laughter without humour; when it makes no other difference in a man, but that his talk is louder, and his face redder than at another time. By the way, Mr. Parr gives me a very good account of Richard, in all respects, but particularly as to his veracity. He says he is an honest little boy, and he likes to talk with him. Have you read Hayley's poem to Gibbon? by some quotations I saw, it is full of genius and excellent versification. Mr. Parr admires it.

Mr. Roderick attended the sons of Mr. Sumner as their private tutor at Colchester, but did not bear any other part in the business of the school. Parr's assistants were, first, Mr. Julius, a very able man, who had been educated by him at Stanmore. Next, Mr. Rooke, Demy of Magdalen College, Oxford, who accompanied him to Norwich.

At Colchester he published nothing, except certain papers and hand-bills on the election of his successor; but the following letter proves that he had some intention of printing a Sermon preached there; and as that letter is from the pen of Sir William Jones, I insert it:

MY DEAR FRIEND, *Worcester, March* 8, 1778.

Your letter overtook me a few days ago, and I am so hurried that I must answer it in very few words. If your Sermon be not likely to hurt you and your family by giving fruitless offence to men in power, I will answer for your reputation, and exhort you to print it *with your name;* without it, you must not expect to have the charges of publication defrayed, as few men read a book with so unpromising a title as, *A Sermon on the 27th of February*, 1778. I shall not be in the Temple till the 30th of April; then I shall be wholly at your service. You will send a copy of your Discourse to me, and may rely on my sincerity, as well as on my attention; but, in the name of the Muses, let it be written in a *legible* hand, for, to speak plainly with you, your English and Latin characters are so ill formed, that I have infinite difficulty to read your letters, and have abandoned all hopes of decyphering many of them. Your Greek is wholly illegible—it is perfect algebra; and your strictures on my Isæus, excellent and valuable as they are, have given more fatigue to my head and eyes than the whole translation. Half an hour in the day would be as much time as you could employ in forming your characters; and you would save four times as much of your friends' time. I will speak with the sincerity which you like: either you can write better, or you cannot; if you can, you ought to write better; if not, you ought to learn. I scribble this as fast as I can move the pen, yet to me it is perfectly legible; it should be plainer still if my pen were better, or I were less hurried. Farewell, my dear friend!—if I did not love and respect you, I would not give you this chiding, which I know you will take in good part.

Parr's residence at Colchester was advantageous

to him, inasmuch as it established his reputation as a schoolmaster; and gave him two companions capable of assisting him in his literary pursuits, and well calculated to keep his mind in vigorous action.

The society of "the exquisitely learned Thomas Twining," as he called him, was singularly agreeable to Parr, from the simplicity of his manners, from the exactness of his taste, from the elegance of his wit, and from those abundant stores of classical learning, of which the fruits are well known to scholars in a translation of Aristotle's poetics. That work is equally distinguished by correctness and perspicuity, and in the notes consummate judgment is united with various and recondite erudition. The conversation of Dr. Forster was peculiarly interesting to Parr, from his deep and clear views upon metaphysical and political subjects; nor was their harmony for one moment disturbed by difference of opinion upon the grounds of the American war, and the maxims of Lord North's administration. Each respected the talents, and each confided in the integrity of the other.

Dr. Forster was one of those great and sturdy characters in which the last age was fertile. Wherever Parr speaks of him, it is with reverence. He calls him the profoundly wise, the upright, and it is clear from the correspondence, that his character was manly and undaunted; that he was a fearless speaker of his thoughts.

Dr. Forster was cousin of Nathaniel Forster the Editor of Plato; he published several single sermons, which are characterized by Parr as very ex-

cellent: and several political pamphlets which he commends as very able indeed. He calls him his very philosophical, very learned, and very benevolent friend in the Bibliotheca; and never mentions him in his correspondence without some term of admiration, affection, or applause. Their friendship continued till it was dissolved by the death of Dr. Forster, an event of which he was informed by Mr. Twining, in a letter which I hope to find and to insert, and to which the following is an answer:

The Rev. Dr. Parr to the Rev. Thos. Twining.

DEAR SIR,

Last week was heavily charged with vexation and disaster. But the sharpest and deepest of my sorrows, the πρεσβύτατον κακῶν had not overtaken me, till with half averted eye and an aching heart, I read the dismal contents of your most pathetic letter—worthy it was of the subject, and of the writer. I feel with you, dear Sir, and I feel for you. Losses of this kind cannot be sustained by the feeble and precarious consolation of philosophy alone. They are seldom repaired in the common course of events, and happy it is for the bulk of mankind, that they are seldom experienced. But let not us who do experience them, forget what we owe to ourselves, nor disgrace the manly dignity of grief by the weakness of complaint. You and I have resources in our studies and in our reflections, to which the benighted understandings and ruffled spirits of ordinary men have no access. Let us thank God for the distinction, and avail ourselves of it as men and as Christians.

The masculine judgment and solid virtues of him who is now no more—his rooted contempt of all that is narrow in bigotry, and all that is base in hypocrisy—the ardour of his benevolence and the constancy of his friendship, will never, never be effaced from the tablets of our hearts. We cannot reflect upon the bright assemblage of his literary and moral excellencies without love and admiration; we cannot love and admire him with-

out catching some portion of his spirit—without a proud and instinctive feeling that we are ourselves capable of improvement—without an awful and sacred sense of duty, under the influence of which we shall eventually be improved. *Forma mentis æterna quam tenere, et aliqua saltem ex parte, exprimere, non per alienam materiam et artem, sed nostris ipsi moribus, et possumus et debemus.* Yes, dear Sir, while we cherish the remembrance of those past and precious hours in which we have been enlightened by his observations, and animated by his counsel, we shall feel something of a generous ardour to imitate his example; like him we shall look upon the errors of mankind with less fretfulness and disgust, and upon their faults with mitigated rigour. Our discernment, like his, will pierce through the grosser surface of actions; and our charity, like his, will find abundant exercise for its activity in all their latent causes, and all their concomitant circumstances of extenuation. Feelingly and frequently recollecting that he was wise and good, we shall ourselves wish to become wiser and better men. We shall be conscious of having deserved to enjoy the rich treasures of his friendship. We shall be prepared to meet him again in a nobler scene of action, and with increased capacities of knowledge and of virtue. But what have I been writing? A sermon or a letter? Verily I know not. I throw upon my paper what occurs to me on reading again your letter; and with such a guide I cannot be very wrong.

You tell me that he died without a groan or a struggle. I am glad to hear so; for the thought of death in some of its uglier forms has now and then scared my mind with that dismay which the Greeks seem to have felt, when they talked of *ἀσπαίρειν*, *σφαδάζειν*, *δυσθανατᾶν*. The mind, it is true, is the best and surest source for that *εὐθανασία*, to which good men only can aspire, and which even the best cannot always attain. For with all its powers and all its hopes, our mental part is not in all cases a match for the infirmities of exhausted and drooping nature; for days of pain, and nights of watchfulness; for the slow depredations of strong and stubborn disease; or for that irresistible dejection, or that inexplicable perturbation of soul, which sometimes precedes and aggravates the last pangs of dissolution. Glad I am that our friend was exempted

from these dreadful trials, and that in conformity to the dignity and intrepidity which distinguished every stage of his life, *constans et libens fatum exceperit.* One circumstance there is, upon which I congratulate him, and for which I am tempted almost to envy you. It fell to *your* lot to perform those interesting and tender offices, in which I should eagerly have striven to share with you if living in the neighbourhood; I could have attended to soften the pains of sickness, and to dispel by friendly assiduities the storm which gathers over us, when we are on the point of being severed from the world, and from those by whom alone the world is endeared to us. I know from sad experience what firmness is required to pay such a debt of friendship; and I also know the sweet, though melancholy reflections, which arise from the consciousness of having discharged it willingly, and with some effect. Once, and happily but once, I did violence to my own nature, and summoning by one great effort the greatest collective force of my soul, I grasped the cold hand, and closed the languid eyes of that man who had been the companion of my boyhood and my youth,—who had been the partner of all my joys and all my sorrows, and compared with whom, even the name of parents and of children seems to me scarcely dear.

What you say of Mrs. Forster cheers me very much. And yet, though I know the soundness of her sense, and the firmness of her resolution, I cannot help thinking how much more is really felt, than is outwardly expressed. I weep over the very fortitude which impresses me with astonishment and reverence, and remembering how many struggles it must have cost to ascend to that state of mind which you emphatically call a state of 'mastered emotion,' I almost exclaim with one, who was able to mark all the finer traces of female sorrow, ἡ δ' ἄγαν σιγὴ βαρύ. Remember me to her in all the balmy language of sympathy unfeigned—speak to her for me, as if you were speaking for yourself. Let her receive from your mouth the strongest assurances that my good wishes to her, and those who are nearest and dearest to her, are most sincere and most unalterable. I will not rudely break into the sanctuary of her grief. But when you tell me that it is safe and proper to come forward, I will say all that ought to be said to such a woman,

the wife, no, I must now consider her as the widow, of such a man. Perhaps after her worldly affairs are more settled, and her spirits more composed, and the weather is warmer, and the days are longer, perhaps she would like to breathe a little of her native Warwickshire air. If it is so, and I hope it will be so, tell her that she will find at Hatton those who regarded him that herself most loved, and who will pay every kind and every respectful attention, which is due to her melancholy situation, and to her real worth.

I wish, dear Sir, that you had broken your long and mortifying silence upon a different occasion. But upon such an occasion as that which brought me lately within your notice, doubtless you are the first, and you are the fittest person to whom I should have looked for information. Hard, very hard, was the task you had to perform. But you have performed it well, and you have convinced me by a fresh and illustrious proof, that learning, taste, and genius, such as yours, have produced the best effects; and that in their amiable possessor the best energies of the understanding are united with the best emotions of the heart.

I return from my ramble about the end of next week, and hope to hear again from you how things are; and till then, and for ever, may God Almighty bless you and yours, and them for whom you so justly and so deeply mourn. Mrs. Parr begs to to be remembered to Mrs. Twining and Mrs. Forster.

Yours very sincerely and affectionately,

Birmingham, April 22nd, 1790. S. PARR.

In the summer of 1778 the Head Mastership of Norwich School became vacant by the resignation of the Rev. Wm. Lemon, author of an Etymological Dictionary. As Parr was not without agreeable connexions in Norfolk, and was most affectionately attached to Robert the brother of Francis Parr, who resided in Norwich, he became a candidate for the free school in that city, was elected in the autumn of 1778, and removed thither in Jan. 1779.

The following letters speak the sentiments of his friends Mr. Langton and Sir William Jones on the appointment:

From Bennet Langton Esq. to Mr. Parr.

DEAR SIR, *Warley Camp, Aug.* 28, 1778.

I was very happy to hear from our friend Mr. Roderick, that important concerns have fallen out since, in respect to the offer to you at the school at Norwich; yet I understood from him, that you did not seem to intend employing above a fortnight of your vacation in going there, and looking to that concern; so that in the remaining part of it, we being so near, I shall hope for a visit from you. I conceive in general, and from what I collected from Mr. Roderick's conversation on the subject, that the removal will be eligible to you; but I wish more explicitly to hear from yourself how far it will be so, and as I have said, hope we shall not want an opportunity of talking fully upon it. Yesterday morning I was very agreeably surprised at an early hour, by the arrival of our friends Mr. and Mrs. Paradise and Mr. Nicolaides. They breakfasted with me in my tent, and saw all that was to be seen, and left again for London very early in the morning.

Dr. Johnson, when I was lately in London on leave of absence, expressed his wish to see a camp, which he said he never had; I assured him of the pleasure it would give me to see him here, and he told me he would come, and that he had no objection to sleeping in a tent; immediately on my return I procured him the offer of a tent to lodge in, and wrote him word of it; but have not yet heard from him. He favoured me with a loan of his three lives of Butler, Waller, and Denham, and suffered me to bring them with me to camp. I wish, dear Sir, I had an opportunity of shewing them to you, as I think we should readily agree in our high opinion of them. I have never been more entertained with any of his works, which is saying a great deal in the praise of these. I beg my best respects to Mrs. Parr, and am, dear Sir,

Your affectionate and humble servant,

B. LANGTON.

From Sir William Jones to Mr. Parr.

MY DEAR PARR, *22nd Oct.* 1778, *Temple.*

I persuade myself that you ascribe my long neglect of writing to you, neither to coldness in friendship (for who is warmer than I?) nor to mere laziness, (for who is more diligent?) but to the real cause; a perpetual agitation in forensic business, and to the suspense in which the minister has been pleased to keep me for six months together, in the affair of the Indian Judgeship. That affair is not yet settled; and I still think it possible for me to be nominated, though I assure you it is impossible for me to be at all vexed at the disappointment. I am just returned from a very pleasant and prosperous circuit. At Hereford I saw Bennet, who had been rambling over Wales. He informed me that you were promoted to the *School* (I wish it had been the *See*) of Norwich. I hope, however, that you will be in town before you go thither. I wish much to consult you about the prefatory part of my Isæus; but fear that my engagements will prevent my sending you a copy of it till the publication. There is a passage in a fragment, preserved by Dionysius, which I cannot construe; it is this ἠβουλόμην μὲν μὴ λίαν οὕτως ἀγνοηθέντα πρόσχημα ἔχειν αἰσχρῶς. The words give me no distinct idea. Can you assist me in explaining them? Lowth's *Isaiah* is printed off, but will not be published till a copy of it can be presented to the King. I am impatient to see it. Farewell: I have heard of the evening which you passed at Warley in Langton's tent.

MY DEAR PARR, *Worcester, 19th July,* 1779.

I take up the pen, after a long interval, to answer your friendly letter of 4th April. Remember to reserve for me a copy of your book; and by the first opportunity to send me all of it that is printed, together with the preface. I shall value it for the sake of the writer, and for the intrinsic merit of the writing; besides, I am resolved to *spheterize* some passages of it; and to apply them in the continual war which I maintain against the unjust and the unprincipled. *Isæus is* highly honoured by you: let me entreat you to take care of your observations on the

work, as I shall want your friendliest assistance and freest censure on revising the next edition. In p. 20 the word *Mother* is left out, and I have found many typographical errors which escaped the eyes of my clerk, and are not in the table of corrections. In the second edition the notes shall be, at your request, more numerous; but I cannot destroy the unity of my work by a minute examination of particles and points. Let me beg you at your leisure to read with attention the speeches of Demosthenes against *Zenothemis*, *Apaturius*, *Phormio*, *Lacritus*, and *Dionysidorus*, and inform me whether they have been ever translated, except by Wolfius and Auger. It is possible that I may amuse myself with translating and explaining them; as they all relate to the *fœnus nauticum* of the civilians, or the *bottomry* of the modern commercial nations; and I wish to be informed whether any other speeches on the same subject are extant. I rejoice that your situation is agreeable to you; and only grieve that you are at such a distance from London. You speak well in your letter of your Dean. Yet I have been told that you are engaged in a controversy with him: OH! MY FRIEND, REMEMBER AND EMULATE NEWTON, WHO ONCE ENTERED INTO A PHILOSOPHICAL CONTEST, BUT SOON FOUND, HE SAID, "THAT HE WAS PARTING WITH HIS PEACE OF MIND FOR A SHADOW." SURELY THE ELEGANCE OF ANTIENT POETRY AND RHETORIC, THE CONTEMPLATION OF GOD'S WORKS AND GOD'S WAYS, THE RESPECTABLE TASK OF MAKING BOYS LEARNED AND MEN VIRTUOUS, MAY EMPLOY THE FORTY OR FIFTY YEARS YOU HAVE TO LIVE MORE SERENELY, MORE LAUDABLY, AND MORE PROFITABLY, THAN THE VAIN WARFARE OF CONTROVERSIAL DIVINITY, OR THE DARK MINES AND COUNTERMINES OF UNCERTAIN METAPHYSICS.* Whether the ἀριστεῖα have been assigned to me in Wales I know not; but the knowledge of men which I have acquired in my short forensic career, has made me satisfied with my present station, and all my φιλοτιμία is at an end. Now for your commission at Oxford. Do I perfectly understand you? The D. of Grafton conferred on

* These are golden sentences; and it is ever to be regretted that they were so often forgotten by our revered friend.

you a Master's degree by mandamus at *Cambridge*. I honour him for it—well, you desire to be admitted to *the same degree* at Oxford. Do you mean that such admission should give you the privilege of voting in *our* house for members of Parliament and academical honours or emoluments? In short, do you wish that the D. of Grafton should confer on you a Master's degree by mandamus at Oxford? *ποῖον ἐφράσω τοδί*, says Archilochus. It is impossible, my dear friend. We do admit the validity of your degree when conferred, but not in our University. How can I insist upon the difference between an *honorary* and a *mandamus* degree, when that difference is unfavourable to you? It is clear, that your Chancellor cannot, by conferring the latter at Cambridge, give his friend the least title to the same privileges at Oxford. I have mentioned this case to several Oxonians under the names of Caius and Titus; they all anticipate my objections before I have fully stated my case. Scott, I believe, sees it in the same light. If I do misapprehend you, explain the matter more fully. On the whole I do not see what degree at Oxford can accelerate your doctorate, except a degree by *diploma*, which the University seldom will confer even on men of their own body. This is the plain manner in which I speak, and in which I desire others to speak to me; if it were in its nature offensive, it would be excused by you, who know how truly and sincerely I am,

Your faithful friend, W. Jones.

Paradise and I spent a fortnight at Paris last May. The nature of our business led us into the company of old Franklin. We dined with him twice, and conversed with him frequently. He is much respected in France. We had more success than I expected; our friend has some chance of receiving the profits of his Virginian estate. Lytton is turned farmer. I passed two days with him last week in Bucks. Pollard is at Paris in the deepest affliction, and most pressing distress. Alas! I could not relieve him without consummate imprudence; he cannot return to Barbadoes without more money than I could spare. He has not been to blame.

It appears by the letters of Dr. Forster and Mr. Twining, that it was not till Parr got to Norwich

that he gave up his intention of publishing his attack on the trustees of Colchester School.* Perhaps he was somewhat influenced by the shrewd remark of his friend Dr. Forster, that crape-makers would sympathize with rag-makers, and that the corporation spirit of trusteeship might be alarmed at Norwich, by what was published against Colchester. It was happily abandoned for a higher purpose: for in 1780 Parr appeared before the public as an author of Sermons. He was invited by the Mayor of Norwich in his official capacity, to print one preached in the Cathedral, and the other in the church of St. Peter's Mancroft, in that City. Of these two Sermons, which came out with the direct authority of his name, the first was preached in the Cathedral December 25, 1779, from Galatians iv. 4th ver. "When the fullness of time was come, God sent forth his only begotten Son."† This Sermon, on the truth and usefulness

* The work alluded to in the beginning of the foregoing letter.

† Mr. Greene, of Ipswich, who afterwards published some Remarks on Adam Smith's Theory of Moral Sentiments, and on Godwin's System, was one of the persons in office at Norwich when these Sermons were preached, and one of those to whom they were addressed, thus returns thanks for them:

Mr. Greene presents his compliments, and returns his thanks to Dr. Parr for the high honour he has done him, in prefixing his name (and in such respectable company) to the two Sermons with which Dr. Parr has obliged the public, and from the perusal of which he has received the greatest and most rational pleasure, satisfaction, and information.

Tuesday, 10 *June* 1780.

of Christianity, neither withholds nor dissembles the doubts and difficulties which have been started by sceptics, but discusses them with boldness and sincerity; it demonstrates the usefulness of the Gospel scheme with irresistible argument, and unfolds its excellence with all the earnestness of eloquence. "Upon the whole (says Parr, in his conclusion of the Sermon,) if Christianity, upon a fair and comprehensive inquiry into its effects, be found to have done much towards the improvement of the world, let us cheerfully pay it that tribute of respect, in consequence of which it will be enabled to do more. If it appear to have done, what in our estimation is too little, let us search for the causes of every defect where alone they are to be discovered, not in the evidences or in the precepts of the religion itself, but in the infirmities of those who defend, without understanding, or who profess without practising it. At all events, let us not, by insulting its authority, and by depreciating its excellence, endeavour to reduce it to a total incapacity of doing any good; for the bulk of mankind will never obey the law which they are taught to despise, and we know from the melancholy experience of men, whose attainments and whose native vigour of mind set them far above vulgar prejudice, that, when the reverence for religion is once lost, the love of virtue is seldom retained.

"There is a dark side belonging to all the concerns of man. Let us turn from it to the contemplation of those brighter scenes which unfold themselves to every unprejudiced and well-informed

Christian. Though God had, for many ages, delayed the appearance of his Son, he, in the fulness of time, sent him forth. Though many obstacles have, in our apprehensions of things, impeded the course of Revelation, it has spread itself over no inconsiderable part of the world. Though a variety of causes have obscured its lustre, and counteracted its influence, the effects of it have been sufficiently extensive and sufficiently beneficial to interest our attention, to excite our gratitude, and to warrant our faith. The tide of human affairs which, before and after the publication of the Gospel, has been secretly controlled by the Providence of God, and invariably directed to the known or unknown purposes which he had in view, is, in these later ages, apparently turning in favour of Christianity. Mutually assisting, and assisted by other causes, by the cultivation of polite learning, and of the more profound sciences; by experiments in natural philosophy, and by researches in moral; by the steady exercise, and humane temper of laws; by the liberal and enlarged principles of civil government, the Gospel is making new progress. The expectations of every worthy man may, therefore, be innocently employed upon the prospect of some happy period, when the belief of our holy religion shall be universal, and its efficacy shall be complete. His efforts, at least, may be laudably exerted in accelerating that momentous event, by which the cavils of unbelievers will be effectually put to silence, and by which the knowledge and the love of God will be deeply fixed in the hearts of all Christians, through all ages, and in all nations."

In this discourse he introduced himself to the public for the first time as a Christian teacher, and as a teacher of morals and learning he never ceased to inculcate "that, when the reverence of religion is once *lost*, the love of virtue is seldom retained."

The second of these discourses was preached at St. Peter's Mancroft, March 24, 1780, from Hebr. xiii. 16th ver. "To do good and to communicate forget not, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased." The subject of this discourse is the education of the poor, and ably has he pleaded the noble cause: he recommends it as a Christian duty to do good and to communicate. He may be said to be one of the first divines in the crusade of education, and to have answered beyond all refutation the objections to a proper education of the poor. "Wide indeed (says he, vol. II. p. 69,) is the gulph which the Deity himself has placed between the poor and the rich," &c. &c.

Of these two Sermons I insert the opinions of Sir William Jones and Dr. Nathaniel Forster.

Sir William Jones to Mr. Parr.

21*st July* 1780. *Temple.*

I received your Sermons, and read them with no less eagerness than pleasure: they are written in a masterly style, and the second must carry conviction to the most obstinate. You call for censure; I have none to send you, nor have I time to give them their due praises. Let me hope that you will not sheath the pen which you have so nobly drawn in defence of religion and poverty, which are alike despised and unfriended by selfish men. I left your Sermons with Lytton, whom I left last Wednesday, and luckily found your letter on my table. I return to him to-morrow. He has observations to impart on your first

Sermon, which he read to me, and both gave and received high pleasure from it. When I was at Oxford, there was a sullen silence in all companies where I happened to be, on the subject of the election. What the event will be, Heaven knows. I have a long tale to unfold to you when we next meet; at the end of August I too shall be in London. No literary news—but, pray, answer a literary question. In Thompson's Preface to the Areopagitica he cites a passage from *Alcæus*, in these words: "What makes a city? Not walls and buildings; no—but men, who know themselves to be men, and are sensible that liberty alone exalts them above brutes." Where is the *original?** I cannot find it among the fragments of my favourite poet. If you find it, I have reason for wishing you to send it to me on the Carmarthen Circuit, where I shall be on 2d Aug. My pamphlet, I fear, will be a weak defence against mobs in rags, or mobs in lace, unless my plan be adopted: Townshend moved for it in the Court of Aldermen, and lost it by two votes. This vexes me; but what vexes me most is, that I shall be in Wales on the 3d of next month, when I had resolved to give the County of Middlesex a little speech, and to propose (if I saw myself well supported) a general measure in support of the civil power, that we may have no more need of the insects † mentioned by *Nicander*,

Σίδης ὑσγινόεντες ἐπημύοντες ὄλοσχοι,

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* Parr immediately sent him the original:

Οὐ λίθοι, οὐδὲ ξύλα, οὐδὲ
Τέχνη τεκτόνων αἱ πόλεις, εἶσιν
'Αλλ' ὅπου ποτ' ἂν ὦσιν "ΑΝΔΡΕΣ
Αὐτοὺς σώζειν εἰδότες,
'Ενταῦθα τείχη καὶ πόλεις.

ALC. quoted by Aristides.

The well-known ode, "What constitutes a State?" was sent the following year to Parr, as appears by a letter dated April 10th, 1781. "Accept, for your amusement, a paraphrase of the fragment of *Alcæus*, which you sent me about a twelvemonth ago; it is *the last sigh of my departed hope* for a renovation of our free Constitution. Farewell!"

† This is a mistaken translation.

so may the soldiers be called. I will not drop the scheme. Why will not your lay-friends in Norfolk give themselves a little trouble to preserve the Constitution? They would take pains enough I dare say, to preserve the game. A month's exercise with the firelock would make them useful men. Try what can be done. You must take the oaths at some sessions, or at Westminster: you may take them at any quarter sessions of any county, city, or place, where you may happen to reside, at Michaelmas. In hunting for the political fragment of *Alcæus* I stumbled upon a conundrum of the poet, which suits the bluntness of the age:

Πόρνη καὶ βαλανεὺς τἀυτὸν ἔχουσ' ἐμπεδέως ἔθος

Why so? Take his reason:

Ἐν τ'αυτῷ πνέλῳ τὸν τ' ἀγαθὸν, τόν τε κακὸν λύει.

Farewell.

Dr. Nathaniel Forster to Mr. Parr.

DEAR SIR, *Colchester, 21st June* 1780.

Thank you most heartily for the Sermons. Legi et relegi. They are far above all praise of mine. Such command and energy of language I never saw in any writer; such depth, and, at the same time, extent of thought, in very few. Yet I like the last sermon most. The conclusion is divine; the objections are answered to the very root. Your first, however, I a little object to. I know of no virtues *approved* by any operation of the *understanding*. But the meaning is perfectly clear. About the first sermon I should have much to say, durst I enter the lists with you. Take, however, a hint or two. Where am I to find the men who make the objections you so completely answer, *against Christianity in general?* These objections, when advanced in form, (for that they may have been sometimes thrown out in a desultory way, without any precise object, I deny not,) are brought against those absurd and nonsensical arguments in proof of Christianity, which we perpetually see and hear. And in this view the objections are unanswerable. When a solemn divine insists upon the *necessity* of a revelation, *à priori*, as an *evidence* for the *truth* of Christianity, its *late appearance*, and its *partial propagation*, are to

me unanswerable answers to that argument. To your *posteriori necessity*, in the sense you explain it, I have not the smallest objection. I most firmly agree with you in the application of the term and of the idea, *after the proofs, after the fact is established* by satisfactory evidence. But when *necessity* of any kind is adduced by way of *proof*, it may be deep metaphysics, but it is to my mind the most unintelligible and offensive jargon. The *imperfect efficacy*, too, of the Gospel, has chiefly been adduced as an *argumentum ad hominem*—to those wise divines who have striven to depreciate the *religion of nature* upon the very same ground. And against these heroes I think the retort is not unfair. As a direct objection to Christianity, to be sure, it has not the smallest weight. You, indeed, most justly make the law of revelation *a part of the law of nature*. If it be not, it is no law for man. But I cannot allow quite so much as you do for the *positive efficacy* of the Gospel. I have long thought, that most of the good effects which you ascribe to it have arisen chiefly, if not solely, from philosophical inquiry, and the *improved reason* of modern times. This, I think, might be shewn in detail. But one simple fact is enough for me. What was *Christian morality* for fifteen or sixteen centuries? In most respects contemptible — in many respects detestable. Yet the Scriptures were studied, perhaps more than at present. But were the efficacy of the Gospel even less than it is, even less than it is admitted to be by its opponents, it would be to me no kind of argument against its truth. I should be a little surprised, perhaps, and disappointed—but no more. It would be only the addition of *one* to the many inexplicable phænomena with which the *moral* world is stocked. So much for hints, for which I make no apology, as I am sure of your pardon.

There was less nonsense talked in either House yesterday about *civil and military* force than I expected. Twining had written an excellent little speech for Charles Fox. But Charles did not feel bold. He even calls himself a *moderate* man. I do not love, and am suspicious respecting the patrons of the Popery Bill. Can Burke and North, Richmond and Mansfield, Saville and Thurlow, have the *same insidious designs?* If they repeal the act, they deserve—but I will not say what, because I can hardly say anything bad enough. Let them prohibit the

teaching of the Protestant children at Popish schools, under the severest penalties. But let every man, in God's name, educate his own children as he pleases. Thurlow, I remember, pressed this point, when the Bill was debated, with most pathetic energy. Various, it seems, and most wide, are the conjectures concerning the cause of these riots. But they appear to me to be nothing more than the ragings of a licentious rabble, —half drunk, first with enthusiasm, and afterwards with gin— with a flaming sword in their mouths. Something for the imagination to fasten upon—some fuel may possibly have been thrown into the flame by French spies or American traitors (the latter I should most suspect, as we have had instances of it) but nothing, I think, from either quarter, that can amount to a preconcerted plan. Uncomfortable reflection, that your Joneses and your Scotts should rank with the *βανανσοι* in any respect. Tell it not in Gath, or, as it may be read, Goth. Invidia siculi, &c. Yet, thank God, there are men in the world whom I can sincerely envy, and yet as sincerely esteem and love. I cannot stop my pen from saying that you are one of them.

NAT. FORSTER.

Although the Discourse on Education, and on the plans pursued in Charity Schools, by S. Parr, LL.D. was not preached till 1785, I shall insert some account of it here. It was preached at Norwich "before a very respectable audience, and it is now submitted to the candour of the public," says Parr, "at the request of some persons, the sincerity of whose approbation I cannot distrust, and with the authority of whose judgment I ought not to trifle. I intend it, in some measure, as a sequel to a Sermon which I published in 1780, at the desire of the late Mr. Thurlow. In that Sermon I entered into a full and elaborate vindication of the general principles on which charity schools are supported. But upon the present occasion I have studiously preserved a

plainer style; I have chiefly attended to the practical part of the subject; I have enlarged more copiously upon the best methods of religious education for all young persons, and with a very few exceptions, I profess only to deliver such common and useful observations as are adapted to the apprehension of common and well-disposed readers."

If such were his aim, he certainly has not succeeded as to plainness of style; for few of his compositions are more redundant in ornament. But, if popularity be the seal of utility, public approbation has undoubtedly stamped the Discourse on Education as the best of Parr's works.

Mandeville and Rousseau, setting out from positions opposite in their direction, have met at the same point, and arrived at the same conclusions. The first, viewing man as an odious and contemptible and vicious being, thinks that the education of the poor will only enable them to practice simulation better, and to hide their enormities under more decent appearances. The author of Emile deems education contaminating, inasmuch as it cramps the energies of the young, which he always esteems a character aspiring after excellence, and confines it in a certain shape, or mould, which is sure to denaturalize and vitiate it.*

Parr rebuts and refutes the deductions of these authors, by arguing in the words of his text:

* "In some respects, however, I feel no reluctance in allowing the claims of both, to the infamy of consummate and notorious consistency," says Parr.

"Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." That the success of a pious education is not perfect, furnishes no argument against our well-meant attempts, but the attempt is therefore not to be given up. From the constitution of the human mind; from the power of habit, and the capacity which the young senses have of being impressed; from all these sources different classes of intellect are formed, and man is made fitter for his different social relations. To a manufacturing town, charity schools he recommended as of singular utility. "The artificer being bound in closer ties to his employer, when brought up from infancy under his eye and by his kindness." The whole discourse is a fine effusion of eloquence, learning, and benevolence, written in a style of the utmost embellishment, perhaps occasionally with too much ornament, but full of dignity and force, and exuberant in illustration. Of the moral sentiment, and particularly of tenderness to animals, that sentiment, as it operated on Parr's mind, and influenced his conduct throughout life, the following passage is a beautiful illustration:

Another passion arising from the activity of the mind, and from the love of superiority, is cruelty. Now, of the most venerable court of judicature that ever existed in Greece, it is recorded that a boy was once condemned by it to the loss of life for mischievously plucking out the eyes of a quail. Common sense and common humanity recoil at such extreme rigour, and yet the principle upon which punishment was appointed is certainly reasonable. Practices of this kind, though viewed by some persons without horror, and even encouraged by direct approbation, extinguish, by degrees, compassion, and cherish

tyranny; that is, they destroy the noblest, and strengthen the most detestable part of the human character. He that can look with rapture upon the agonies of an unoffending and unresisting animal will soon learn to view the sufferings of a fellow-creature with indifference; and in time he will acquire the power of viewing them even with triumph, if that fellow-creature should become the victim of his resentment, be it just or unjust. But the minds of children are open to impressions of every sort; and, indeed, wonderful is the facility with which a judicious instructor may habituate them to tender emotions. I have therefore always considered mercy to beings of an inferior species as a virtue which children are very capable of learning, but which is most difficult to be taught, if the heart has been once familiarized to spectacles of distress, and has been permitted either to behold the pangs of any living creature with cold insensibility, or to inflict them with wanton barbarity.

Of this Discourse I am sorry to observe, that the correspondence of Sir William Jones * says nothing; but there are several valuable notices of it from some of his other friends; but above all, I esteem that of Mrs. Coke, the accomplished and virtuous lady of Thomas W. Coke Esq. of Holkham, the most.

SIR,

I venture to give you the trouble of this letter, as I had rather that you should think me troublesome, than that you should suppose me insensible to the merit of your very valuable and flattering present. I have read your Discourse upon Education with the utmost attention, and with that eager desire of information which a parent may be supposed to possess, who has for seven years directed much serious thought to this most important object; for having only daughters, the pleasing task of their instruction became my province. Here you must excuse my saying, that if they had been sons, it would have been

* He was then in India.

my earnest wish not to confine my approbation of your excellent system to the barren tribute of my poor praise. What stamps the highest value on your opinions in my mind, is this, that they are not mere assertions, but the result of many years *extensive experience*, as well as much profound meditation, and diligent researches into the labours of other men; which latter your notes sufficiently testify, though those in the dead languages I do not pretend to understand. Whereas Rousseau, and several authors I have perused, who have treated this subject, not possessing the superior advantage of experience, only serve to lead astray by plausible theories, which are undoubtedly not practicable. I must here observe, that I am happy in having your authority, in opposition to the fashionable doctrines of scepticism, that religion is the surest foundation on which we can raise moral virtue in either sex. After what I have written, you cannot doubt the pleasure I should receive from your company at Holkham when I return there, and in affording you an opportunity to judge how far I have been able to put in practice, with respect to my children, a system of education I profess so entirely to approve.

I am, with much esteem, Sir, your most faithful servant,

JANE COKE.

Pardon the liberty I take in requesting to be informed, whether you think Dr. Johnson's Dictionary the best standard of the English language for the *unlearned* to consult concerning orthography and pronunciation?

Longford near Derby, Dec. 23d, 1785.

Rev. J. Greene to Dr. Parr.

Nov. 18th, 1785.

Permit me, Sir, to take this opportunity of returning you my best thanks for the very great pleasure and information which I have received from your admirable Discourse on Education. To speak my real sentiments of it, in a letter immediately addressed to you, might be an offence, in some measure, to delicacy. But surely it can be none to say that, in

my opinion, the character you give of Dr. Balguy's Discourses (*mutatis mutandis*) may justly be applied to your own.

Your faithful and obedient humble servant,

J. GREENE.

This Discourse, I find by the correspondence with Professor White, was reviewed by him, art. viii. v. vii. English Review, and his character of the style I insert to mark the injustice he committed, when thinking it necessary to make critical remarks. "The style is laboured and adorned, but often diffuse and redundant. It abounds with multiplications of phrases to express the same ideas: is too regularly divided into duads and triads, and sometimes grates the ear of the reader, with those *sesquipedalia verba* which, since the days of Johnson, have been confounded with fine writing."

These two Sermons are not only an era in Parr's life, but form an epoch in the history of education; they do honour to him as the advocate of the poor, and as a pioneer in the great work of general instruction — to his moral sensibilities, and insight into human character and to the foresight of that progress, which intellect was making, and which demands, in our days, a repeal of every law which obstructs the access of the meanest individual to true and vital religion.

Before the Reformation, the systems of Education in England, and every where else, were purely scholastic. They were entirely in the hands of the clergy; and the prince, the peer, the clerk, and the apprentice in law, or medicine, were all trained up in a particular system; all different in their manner,

but all adapted to the person of the catechumen. The prince and the noble were trained in a royal road, but their instruction was small, and in some instances it did not even include the art of writing. The clerk and the transcriber of ancient manuscripts and sacred records, were necessarily taught to write. The learned in the law, and the expert Leech also were so instructed; but the poor man's son, unless he was dedicated to the menial offices of the Church, to sing in the choir, or respond in the service, had never the advantage even of being taught to read. Of the three black-letter treatises on Education, published after the revival of letters, the systems are all grammatical and scholastic. Even after the Reformation there is no general and philosophical discussion of the subject. In "The Schoolmaster, or playne and perfite way of teaching children to understonde, write, and speak the Latin tongue, but specially for the private bringing up of Youth in Gentlemen and Noblemen's Houses 1589," with the proem of a curious dialogue at the Court of Windsor, concerning severity of discipline, in which many of the courtiers of the Queen in the presence of Elizabeth herself, were interlocutors, Ascham enters into some nice and good moral distinctions, but the work is didactic only as to grammar. Brinsley's Ludus Literarius, published in 1627, and dedicated to Princes Henry and Charles, is a general system of grammar education only, yet so minute in its instructions, as to give the precise rule for punishment, the instrument, the mode, the number of jerks.

During the dark ages monasteries, priories, abbies, and their dependant clergy, were the only places and instruments of education: and we may judge of the darkness which covered the people from the fact, that an exemption from degrading punishments was granted by the mercy of our laws to those lights of their generation who possessed the accomplishment of reading. But when the Reformation dawned, a better order of things was opened to the eyes of the Reformers, and among others education and the education of the poor was glanced at in their views of improvement. After the dissolution of the monasteries, *they* alone* contemplated the distribution of the spoil, as a possible benefit to the community—they even quarrelled about it with the Court. Strype, in his Memorial of Archbishop Cranmer, says:

> In the year 1539, the King took occasion to be displeased with the Archbishop, and the other Bishops of the *new learning*, as they then termed them, because they could not be brought to give their consent in the Parliament that the King should have all the monasteries suppressed to his own sole use. They were willing he should have all the land that his ancestors gave to any of them; but the residue they would have had bestowed upon hospitals, grammar-schools for bringing up of youth in virtue and good learning, with other things profitable in the commonwealth.—Book 1. c. xix.

In the settlement of the Church of Canterbury, education was a part of the plan, and I shall give

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* Certainly those gentlemen and noblemen who sought for grants of estates, and enjoyed them, had no other view than their own benefit and personal interest.

Cranmer's argument for the education of the poor, to demonstrate the position, that the Reformers looked to education, as a main furtherance of their cause.

It came to pass, that, when they should elect the children of the Grammar-school, there were of the Commissioners more than one or two who would have none admitted but sons or younger brethren of gentlemen. As for other husbandmen's children, they were more meet, they said, for the plough, and to be artificers, than to occupy the place of the learned sort. So that they wished none else to be put to school, but only gentlemen's children. Whereunto the most Reverend Father the Archbishop, being of a contrary mind, said, "That he thought it not indifferent so to order the matter; for," said he, "poor men's children are many times endued with more singular gifts of nature, which are also the gifts of God, as with eloquence, memory, apt pronunciation, sobriety, and such like; and are commonly, also, more apt to apply their study than is the gentleman's son delicately educated." Hereunto it was, on the other part, replied, "That it was meet for the ploughman's son to go to the plough, and the artificer's son to apply the trade of his parent's vocation, and the gentleman's children are meet to have the knowledge of government and rule in the commonwealth. "For we have," said they, "as much need of ploughmen as any other State, and all sorts of men may not go to school." "I grant," replied the Archbishop, "much of your meaning herein, as needful in a commonwealth. But yet, utterly to exclude the ploughman's son and the poor man's son from the benefit of learning, as though they were unworthy to have the gifts of the Holy Ghost bestowed upon them, as well as upon others, is as much as to say, as that Almighty God should not be at liberty to bestow his great gifts of grace upon any person, nor no where else, but as we and other men shall appoint them to be employed, according to our fancy, and not according to His most godly will and pleasure, who giveth his gift, both of learning and other perfection in all sciences, unto all kinds and states of people indifferently. Even so doth he many times withdraw from them and their posterity again those bene-

ficial gifts, if they be not thankful. If we should shut up into a strait corner the bountiful grace of the Holy Ghost, and thereupon attempt to build our fancies, we should make as perfect a work thereof as those that took upon them to build the Tower of Babel. For God would so provide, that the offspring of our best-born children should peradventure become most unapt to learn; and very dolts, as I myself have seen no small number of them very dull, and without all manner of capacity. And to say the truth, I take it, that none of us all here being gentlemen born (as I think), but had our beginning that way from a low and base parentage; and through the benefit of learning, and other civil knowledge, for the most part all gentlemen ascend to their estate." Then it was again answered, "That most part of the nobility came up by feats of arms and martial acts." "As though," said the Archbishop, "that the noble captain was always unfurnished of good learning and knowledge to persuade and dissuade his army rhetorically, who rather that way is brought into authority, than else by his manly looks. To conclude; the poor man's son, by pains taking, will for the most part be learned, when the gentleman's son will not take the pains to get it; and we are taught by the Scriptures that Almighty God taketh up from the dunghill, and setteth him in high authority. And, whensoever it pleaseth him of his Divine providence, he deposeth princes from a right humble and poor estate. Wherefore, if the gentleman's son be apt to learning, let him be admitted; if not apt, let the poor man's child, that is apt, enter his room." With words to the like effect. Such a seasonable patron of poor men was the Archbishop.

The Reformation thus began the education of the poor; but it was very unequally followed up in England. In Scotland,* the reformation of religi-

* Doubtless the Reformation began the education of the poor in Scotland; but the Parliament fixed it by Statute. The Act in favour of Universities, Schools, and Hospitals, extends the Laws in favour of Ministers of the Gospel to them. But

ous abuses went deeper; and in a thin population, the efforts to enlighten the poor were more easy. So effectual indeed were they, that our own times have witnessed that rare and happy combination of circumstances, poverty united with virtuous habits, and religious feelings, both arising out of an independent and instructed mind. Even the fanatics in England introduced no system, like that of the Scotch. Archbishop Tenison recommended a system of education upon a like principle; but till the last generation, charity schools were confined to a few foundations; there was no school in every parish, to which the labourer could send his child; and the consequence was, that the bulk of the population was never taught to read. We may consider Parr, therefore, as I said before, as one of the first crusaders in the cause of the education of the poor.

More than fifty years ago, the Rev. Mr. Stock, incumbent of a Church at Gloucester, suggested the method of instructing the poor in Sunday schools; and recommended it to Mr. Raikes of the same city, who had the merit of adopting it. Not many of the peasants of England were then taught to read, and few to write. A grammar school, or a family found-

it was the "Act for settling of Schools" that did the business, by ordaining "that there be a School settled and established, and a Schoolmaster appointed, in every parish not already provided, &c. and provide a commodious house for a School, and settle and modify a salary to a Schoolmaster," &c.—Laws and Acts of Scotland, King William's first Parliament, vol. iii. p. 561. I lament that I had not the power of availing myself of the instruction of my learned friend, the eloquent and pious Dr. Chalmers, on the subject of parochial schools. I had not heard of his treatise when this sheet was first before me for correction.

ation, was found here and there, but their operation was so limited, that it tended to maintain the oligarchy of learning, rather than to diffuse its benefits among the people.

The Lancaster and Bell's systems bid fair to make the education of the poor as general as it need be, with those various ramifications of systems of instruction which embrace the infant lisping on the knee, and the adult who is willing to learn, and ashamed to be outstripped in the race of knowledge by his own offspring.

Parr in his Sermons exposes the fallacy of the assertion, that, by instructing the labouring classes, you set them above their manual occupations. If the whole of society be instructed together, of course it will move onward in equal progression. Occupation is essential to man's happiness. Where there is no necessity for labour to procure daily bread, even there it must be artificially sought for,* or repose will be without refreshment, and ease without pleasure. Archdeacon Butler, in his admirable Charge to the Clergy of the Archdeaconry of Derby, p. 12, says,

> The stream of knowledge necessarily becomes shallower as it is spread; it occupies, indeed, a more widely-extended surface, but it is stagnant, vapid, and powerless. It neither roars down the cataract, sweeping away the rocks and obstacles which oppose its might; nor flows with deep and majestic course, bearing on its bosom the rich and costly freight of matured intellect or inventive genius; but it presents one dull unvaried surface, not deep enough to be roused by storms into wholesome agitation, and shallow enough to admit the growth

* See Dr. Maltby's 18th Sermon, vol. i. part vii. pp. 352, &c.

of noxious weeds, and to be kept turbid by the continual fermentation of the indigested matter over which it stagnates.

Yes—a few sciolists and superficial thinkers or smatterers in learning will necessarily arise, as the scum of a general system of instruction, during the process of fermentation: but the more it works, the stronger it is likely to be. Premature establishments of institutions for promoting the arts and sciences can do no harm, unless they exhaust the resources, and waste the time, of the needy. Let them pass; they are exuberances from the regular growth, and only shew its vigour.

Though experiments, says Dr. Butler, in incautious hands are never free from hazard; though they are like the letting out of water, which is not always safe or salutary; if it is directed into its proper channels, it may nourish the plants, and make the earth bring forth abundantly; if it is suffered to flow without restraint, where it ought to refresh and invigorate, it may inundate and destroy.

This sentiment is justly conceived and beautifully expressed; yet it would not be wise to cut off the benefits of irrigation from the soil, because a portion of the water might stagnate. Every system of education must have its restraining, as well as its encouraging powers.

I forbear entering the wide field which philosophers have spread before our fancy, as to the perfectibility of our earthly condition, and the general diffusion of imperturbable happiness. Man that is born of a woman has hitherto found his few days full of misery, nor is it possible that a temporary fabric, and a probationary state, should be exempt from

mutability. What improvements of science can entirely ward off the awful visitation of nature, the lightnings of Heaven, or the volcanoes of earth, or the pestilence that walketh in darkness? What illumination of the intellect can prevent the fiercer tempest of the passions? I do not agree with Gibbon, in his sarcastic remark on Sir John Chardin, that Europeans have done the Persians an ill office by diffusing among them sentiments of freedom. There can be no doubt that our nature admits of amelioration—that the lower orders ought to be instructed, and that a better and more happy condition must spring out of proper instruction.

At Norwich also appeared "A Discourse on the late Fast, by Phileleutherus Norfolciensis,* printed for Dodsley, &c. 1781. The author of the following Discourse is a serious, and, he hopes, an unprejudiced Clergyman of the Church of England. He conceals his name, because he is not impelled by

* The title Phileleutherus Cantabrigiensis was used in the Bangorian Controversy by the author of three Discourses addressed to Dr. Tenison; the first, A Defence of Private Judgment; second, Against the Authority of the Magistrate over Conscience: third, Considerations of the re-uniting of Protestants. Printed by Kempter 1718.

It is also used by the Author of Reflections upon Reason, styling himself Phileleutherus Britannicus, printed by W. and J. Innys (the Nichols's of their day), 1722. It was pointed out to Dr. Parr's notice by a note in Thirlby's edition of Justin Martyr, a book given to him by Dr. Robert Sumner, and enriched by the marginal annotations of both.

And also by Bentley, in his immortal criticism on Le Clerc's Menander, under the title of Phileleutherus Lipsiensis.

any motives of vanity to venture on publication; and he has published, because the sentiments which he maintains seem to coincide with the most useful purposes, which the late Fast could be intended to promote. Those sentiments, indeed, are not likely to attract popularity by slavish adulation, or seditious invective; they flatter the prejudices of no party, and are honestly intended to reform such immoralities as may justly be imputed to all."

It is not stated where this Sermon was preached; or whether it was ever preached at all. "Suppose ye that these Galileans were sinners, &c. &c. (Luke, xiii. v. 2 and 3.) was the text, and the dispensations of Providence in regard to states, &c. the subject. From the general subject he descends to that contest which was the Fast Day theme, "where the most sacred ties are torn asunder, the fondest affection alienated, the most useful attachments disregarded." The American war, during its progress, had brought forth many an angry debate at Colchester between Parr and Dr. Nathaniel Forster. Parr *there* was a partizan of the Americans and their cause, and it is probable that much of the matter of this Discourse, had there been discussed. "The effects of luxury on states—the influence and agency of Providence, as determining the fate of nations—the dependence of public happiness on the integrity of public manners—the effects of the pleasures of Asia, when poured into the lap of sensuality, and where her wealth is easily seized by the grasp of avarice. In the higher stations of life, too, when we see rank without dignity, money without wealth,

and voluptuousness almost without enjoyment." But I shall quote the following passages, as examples of the style and reasoning of this Discourse: the first, on the decay of empires; the second, a character of the Constitution of England:

I.

It may be laid down as an invariable maxim, that no empire, however fruitful in resources, extensive in dominion, or conspicuous in fame, can long subsist, after it hath ceased to be virtuous. Ostentatious magnificence, and the appearance even of formidable strength, it may still preserve; but on the first breakings of those tempests which hang over all the aims of thoughtless and aspiring men, its unsuspected weakness will be inevitably exposed in its unforeseen perdition.

Curious it is to observe the rapid strides with which the most celebrated States have descended from the airy and slippery eminences of greatness, to misery and shame. When the sword has been sheathed, and every alarm far removed by the successes of war, ingenuity and diligence are usually employed in improving those inventions to which men have been led by accident or incited by necessity. Refinement succeeds to improvement, and is itself followed close by corruption. Artificial wants, then, multiply beyond the power of supplying them; the dominion of appetite is extended farther and farther, till the objects of gratification, with whatever diversity they have been combined, and to whatever perfection they may have been wrought up, are almost exhausted. The lust of pleasure gives new force to the lust of wealth, because wealth only can furnish the materials of enjoyment. To the depravity of private morals succeeds the extinction of public spirit, and all become ripe for revolt, because all are eager for plunder. Complaints are then reciprocally urged and retorted, by those who cannot govern and those who will not obey. Laws, enacted to prevent evasion and violation, are themselves evaded by new artifices, and violated with greater audacity; secret cabals are formed; open tumults break out; till some daring usurper rivets, in one lucky moment, the fetters of despotism on a lawless, helpless multitude; or some foreign enemy, invited by the

facility of conquest, bends down their necks to the galling yoke of servitude.—P. 7.

II.

Venerable for its antiquity, and endeared to us by a long experience of its use, the Constitution of this Country may justly challenge the annals of the world to produce an equal. Founded on the solid rock of justice, cemented by duration, and fortified by every expedient that policy could suggest, it has hitherto withstood all the shocks of external violence, and all the dark machinations that have been employed to undermine it. Complaints, I know, have been urged against the multiplicity of our civil and the rigour of our penal laws; but when these laws are compared with such as are established in other countries, their principles will be found equitable, their spirit mild, and their administration most impartial. Although the discipline of our armies be excelled in some neighbouring States, where military strength is perverted into an engine of oppression, their valour in every just cause has long excited the admiration even of their enemies; and with regard to that force which forms the peculiar and firmest bulwark of our safety, the skill of our commanders, and the intrepidity of our seamen, are confessedly without example. Narrow, indeed, will be his views, and languid his satisfaction, who would confine the glory of this country to the wisdom of its laws and the vigour of its arms. Polite literature has been cultivated among us with a success that antiquity only has surpassed. The mechanic arts have been improved by us, not perhaps to the highest perfection of exterior elegance, but to the no less honourable purposes of general utility. In this respect they have probably reached their summit; and it might be wished that the wantonness of innovation, and the debaucheries of refinement, should be in future controled. As to the more abstract sciences, so profound have been our investigations, and so important our discoveries, that we are permitted to take the lead, I say not merely of Northern Europe, where civilization has scarcely dawned, nor of those Southern parts where superstition blasts every effort of genius; but of those brave and accomplished people who are alone entitled to dispute the palm of superiority with us, either in the atchievements of war or in the arts of peace. But, amidst the advantages that distinguish

this Country, a very illustrious rank must be assigned to that religion, which is alike exempt from the harshness of Calvinism and the corruptions of Popery; which preserves the sacred privileges of Revelation, without infringing the no less sacred rights of reason; which looks, I trust, with some degree of favour on the worthiest and the ablest of its teachers, who have been eminent as well for their enlarged sentiments of toleration as for their exemplary piety; and which no longer lifts up the terrors of persecution over the manly and rational inquirer, who, without offering any wanton insult to prescription, asserts and enjoys the liberty of paying a larger share of homage to the superior authority of truth.—P. 15.

Of this Discourse, which was characterized at the time, as "a treatise of the highest value, abounding with acute and important observations, striking and energetic language, sublime and pathetic eloquence, seldom equalled in wisdom, piety, and animation," Sir William Jones thus speaks:

MY DEAR PARR, *29th Nov.* 1781, *Lamb Buildings.*

Your eloquent figures would give eyes to Tiresias himself, or compel him at least to use his tongue. The cause of my silence has been a weakness in my eyes, the remains of an inflammation in the summer, which makes it imprudent for me to read or write by the light of a candle, however shaded. In the day-time I am obliged to write and read immoderately, especially at present; and Arthur, to whom I could dictate, is in the country for his health. Of the Alcaic Ode to Liberty I have not one copy; but Paradise has engaged to re-print it, with notes, historical and explanatory. I was forced to transcribe it myself for Bennet, but I cannot *now* find leisure to copy it. I send you, instead of it, a Pindaric ode, written almost extempore, on Lord Althorp's marriage. It is incorrect and careless, but full of fire. The translation of the Ode to Pyrrha was merely a whimsical contest with Milton, who professes to have rendered it "as near the Latin measure *as may be.*" No, say I, you may approach nearer to the original

measure; and I give a proof. I did not send the Law tract to any but professional men; and this rule made me forget Hallifax, who was entitled to a copy; but the Civilian was *merged*, as we say, in the Divine. My lippitude, which prevented me from writing, prevented me also from reading Phileleutherus; but Paradise speaks highly of it, and has promised to read it to me. The style seems very masterly, and the sentiments just. I smiled at your exhortation to *forgive* the Americans; but they will *forgive you*, and *if possible*, *your* Country. I have been fighting your battles in many companies, and bearing ample testimony to your *integrity*. I find more difficulty in supporting your *reasons*, especially your sheet-anchor—"that we should unite in upholding Government, because our enemies are so numerous and virulent." What! must we, because we have many misfortunes already, add to them the last and worst of human misfortunes, a despotism in substance, with freedom in shadow? This I cannot comprehend; but think that wise men ought to diminish, instead of increasing, the number and magnitude of their calamities. I will not exult on account of the late masterly stroke of Washington; but I confess, that I rejoice with an *exceeding great joy*. I heard much of your theses,* and hope you will print them. I am ever happy to receive your letters, but cannot write again till Christmas. Farewell!

What slender paramour under a rosy cave
Courts thee, sweetly bedew'd with liquid essences?
Say, fair Pyrrha, for whom thou
Bindst thy tresses of wavy gold,
In plainness elegant? Often, alas! will he
Weep, and fondly bewail thy mutability,
Oft, rough with many tempests,
View yon seas with astonishment,
Who now, credulous youth, folds thee in ecstacy,
Who thee, ever a kind, ever a lovely maid
Hopes, unmindful of breezes
Fallacious! O unhappy, whom

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* For Parr's LL.D. degree.

Thy strange beauty delights! Me on the holy wall
Yon votive monument indicates here to have
Hung my watery vestments
To the stern God of Ocean.

I add Milton's translation of the same ode, for the sake of comparison.

"Quis multa gracilis te puer in rosa."
HOR. Lib. 1. Od. 5.

"*Rendered almost word for word, without rime, according to the Latin measure, as near as the language will permit, by* JOHN MILTON.

"What slender youth, bedew'd with liquid odors,
Courts thee on roses in some pleasant cave,
Pyrrha? for whom bind'st thou
In wreaths thy golden hair,
Plain in thy neatness? O how oft shall he
On faith and changed Gods complain, and seas
Rough with black winds and storms
Unwonted shall admire!
Who now enjoys thee credulous, all gold,
Who always vacant, always amiable,
Hopes thee of flattering gales
Unmindful. Hapless they
To whom thou untry'd seem'st fair. Me in my vow'd
Picture the sacred wall declares t'have hung
My dank and dropping weeds
To the stern God of Sea."

Dr. Nathaniel Forster's opinion shall close the account of this Discourse:

Colchester, 6th July, 1781.

I thank you, my dear Sir, most cordially for your corrections and hints. I wish I may have been able to make a proper use of them. The Sermon, such as it is, may, I think, do good. It will certainly mortify the man who gave occasion to it. No bad effect that.

I should be very sorry to have you think that I only *like*

your first Discourse. I *feast* upon it, almost daily. Your political representations are impartiality itself; and, as I said before, the colouring is inimitable. Let me single out the comparison of extended empire to gold-leaf, as what seized me at the instant, and still keeps fast hold of me. If the diction sometimes appears *laboured*, it is because we pigmies in style, with all our stretchings and strugglings, cannot reach near it. From you it flows with ease and rapidity. Will you now excuse a dab or two of criticism? Is there not, in your representations of the Deity, a tone of severity, which savours rather more of systematic theology, than of the benevolence of your heart, or the philosophy of your head? Do you not speak, too, in rather harsh terms of *general* unbelief and unbelievers? The *crime* of unbelief remains yet to be explained. Of unbelief, I mean, upon principle, and from conviction. I cannot think that the *popular* representation of the punishment assigned to States has been *unjustly* ridiculed. Many people talk of them as if there were such existing *beings*. The argument for the *necessity* of such punishments, as stated, in form syllogistic, by Archbishops and Bishops, as well as inferior Parsons and Curates, is certainly the consummation of nonsense. "Wicked States or Nations must be punished *somewhere*. They *cannot* be punished hereafter—ergo," &c. The plain fact, to my understanding, is this: the vices of certain individuals, which compose a state or nation, produce, by the established order of things, certain evils to such individuals, in this their *relative* character; such as dissolution of government, loss of liberty, &c. These evils, under a *moral* government, are no doubt very properly called punishments. As to luxury, I have one single principle. When it is pernicious, it is criminal. The only question is, where the line is to be drawn. No general line, I think, can be drawn. But I think with you that criminality begins much sooner than is generally supposed. Yet luxury has been ever found to follow prosperity; and prosperity is the wish of all. But what is to be concluded from this? Not that luxury is a good, because prosperity is. It is only an instance of one of your former positions, of the generation of evil from good, by human folly, or something worse. "Private vices public benefits," is nonsense in its very

terms. An action that produced, not absolute, universal benefit, whatever name might be given it, would be amongst the first of virtues. To say that there is always the same quantity of vice and virtue in the world, is quite as nonsensical as saying that there is always the same quantity of motion in usum naturæ. Yet I think we may fairly say, that almost every vice has its kindred virtue, and *vice versâ*. And that, therefore, each throws a little bit of a weight in the opposite scale. But as to a *balance*—no such thing.

I must beg to have a sight of your thesis, whether you print it or not; but I hope you will print it. I wish much to see a style in modern Latin. I hear from Roderick a most splendid account of your proceedings at Cambridge. I am very sorry to find he is obliged to return to curatizing, and I heartily wish him something more comfortable. Twining set out for Yorkshire on Monday se'nnight. I hope the journey will set him up. He has of late been by no means well. Hopson's theory I cannot explain in detail, for I am not chemist enough to understand it. His general principles are, that heat and light are distinct bodies; that both together constitute phlogiston, when fixed in other bodies; and fire, when detached from them. His Latin, I am sure, is *sui generis*. And of a very different *genus* from either light or heat. With our best respects to Mrs. Parr, and congratulations to our good cousin, ever am, my dear Sir, yours most sincerely, NAT. FORSTER.

I expect Mountain * every minute with a brace of Kentishes.

The Rev. Dr. Parr.

Thus in these three Discourses Dr. Parr evinced his piety, by soberly yet zealously defending the doctrines of the Gospel; his love of his neighbour, by asking protection for the poor; and his love of his country, by advocating the cause of rational

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* The late Bishop of Quebec, who married Miss Kentish, a very amiable woman, who now lives with one of her sons at Hemel Hempstead.

freedom. His confidence in his own powers now waxed strong. His style was formed; and, with the usual tendency of superior intellect, he began to project works of usefulness, or profit, or honour, to raise his reputation, or to promote his interests. And perhaps he viewed at a distance the execution of some great performance, that might make him a light to his own generation, and transmit his name to a late posterity. Such is the natural aspiration of genius, after "the last infirmity of noble minds." Nor was it less out of the order of things for Parr to aspire thus high, than his fellow schoolmaster Milton, "in the spacious circuit of his musings." For both of them well knew "the accomplishment lies not but in a power, above man's to promise," and both might truly assert, "that none had by more studious ways endeavoured."

At Norwich, the frequent association with Mr. Windham confirmed Parr in those politics, to which he had shewed an oblique tendency even at Harrow. His father was a Tory, perhaps a Jacobite. But ancient lore had imbued the young scholar with the noblest feelings of patriotism. Declamations on liberty, and the martyrs who suffered in her cause, were the objects of his daily study. His friend Jones was a Republican: how then can we wonder, that he himself should be strongly tinctured with the generous principles of freedom! At the election for the county of Middlesex, contested between John Wilkes and Sir William Beauchamp Proctor, Parr stood forward, contrary to the advice of Dr. Sumner and his own interest, as the

partizan of Wilkes. He went and voted for him, and Mr. Roderick's account * of the affair will amuse the reader. The sons of the Duke of Grafton, the Prime Minister, and of Sir William Beauchamp Proctor, were at this time his pupils; yet so resolved was he to be independent, that he thus manfully scorned his own decided interests.

The Phileleutherus proved that he had not forgotten politics in 1781. And in 1783 the changes of ministry, the distractions of parties, the hopes of the Whigs, and lastly their coalition with the Tories, aroused him again into authorship, and he re-printed Rapin on Whigs and Tories with notes, praising the coalition and not abusing Pitt, who then shone on the horizon as a star of brightness, and soon became Lord of the ascendant; but, above all, maintaining the constitutional prerogative of the Crown. Whether the hope of pleasing his patron † who was a party in the coalition, was one

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* Roderick's letter to me in Appendix.

† The following is the Earl of Dartmouth's letter, dated London, 22nd Dec. 1783:

SIR,

The very extraordinary and unprecedented steps that have lately been taken, must have excited in every thinking mind the same alarm and indignation that they have raised in you; and I should have been happy to have concurred in pointing out a man for your representative, who would have shewn a proper abhorrence of a measure, so full of danger and so big with mischief. I am highly obliged to you for your goodness in consulting me upon this occasion; but I believe I may now assure you that you may return to the prosecution of your useful labours: and perhaps you will think that the circumstances of the

of the silent inducements for undertaking this work; or whether he began to seek preferment by political partizanship, I do not venture to assert. If these were his hopes they were defeated. The Coalition was rent asunder by the power of the Crown. Pitt triumphed, and Parr from this moment became the steady follower and the warm admirer of Charles Fox. Rapin on Whigs and Tories, though reprinted, was never published under the auspices of Parr. The defeat of the Coalition was probably the cause: for it would have done him no dishonour, either as a moderate Whig, or as an Ecclesiastic of the Church of England, to have published it. The notes illustrate the progress of our free constitution from the authorities of modern date, rather than those which are now of such vogue of Saxon

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times render the present not an unfavourable moment for the production of them, as soon as you please. All idea of dissolution seems now to be totally abandoned. The Commons have just voted an address to the Crown, to advise his Majesty not to dissolve the Parliament, and humbly to request him to listen to the advice of his faithful Commons, rather than to that of men (the substance has only been related to me, I don't answer for the words,) who may have private and interested views in the advice they give him. A friend of Mr. Pitt's informed the House that he had authority from Mr. Pitt to say, he should not advise the king to dissolve the Parliament; and a brother of Lord Temple acquainted them, that his noble relation had resigned his employment, that he might stand as a private man to meet the charges that had been thrown out against him. Every moment is productive of some new event; and whether there will be any administration to-morrow morning or none, time only can shew. I am, Sir, with great regard and esteem, your most obedient humble servant, DARTMOUTH.

and Norman times. De Lolme, Blackstone, Bolingbroke, Hurd, Stewart, Hume, Jebb, with those classical illustrations which his memory readily supplied from the ancients, are his chief authorities; and it will be curious and instructive to quote his opinions of some men at this period of his life, and to contrast them with the opinions which were formed by his more mature judgment.

As an unpublished work, and a work seen hitherto only by myself, I state my opinions of it with little confidence. That Parr's sentiments were much biassed by the events which had then occurred is clear, from his addressing this work to Lord Dartmouth, who had been steadily his friend, and who was associated with his kinsman Lord North in the Coalition. Of the Treatise itself no more need be said, than that it is a vehicle for the notes of Parr. Whatsoever may have been the deep-seated principle of Rapin's politics, whether republican or not, it is clear at all events that he was a friend of civil and religious liberty. The modifications and limitations which Parr appends to Rapin's dissertation, are the points of consequence to his biographer; and I shall take occasion to illustrate his character in different parts of these Memoirs, by quotations from this unpublished work. Many rays of light may be cast from them upon his system, whether of politics or of polity at different periods of his life. His estimate of literary men,* who have written on constitutional subjects; his opinion of

* Jebb, Price, and Priestley, page 73, &c. &c.

statesmen, then hurled from power, or attempting to grasp the reins of it; his views of the progress of the history of our constitution; the feudal system; the charters of our rights; the defeat of the despotical aims of the Stuarts; and our episcopal establishment of religion. All these topics are discussed and illustrated in the notes to the republication of Rapin on Whigs and Tories, from which a selection will be made in these volumes; but, I cannot resist now inserting the following quotations as specimens.

There is a noble note on the Revolution in 1688.

The wants of the people were redressed: their claims were admitted: their majesty in the language of modern patriotism was respected for just and honourable reasons. At this awful crisis, their resentments were not wound up to an unnatural pitch; their complaints were extorted by real misery; and therefore they were both worthy of protection, and capable of receiving it, without any shock to the Government, or any insult to the laws. Galled under the pressure of wrongs they had already experienced, and terrified with the prospect of greater mischiefs which they had yet to dread from the churlish bigotry and headstrong infatuation of their king, they boldly stood forth to shelter those rights, for which their fathers had so lately bled, from presumptuous violation. But the frightful convulsions to which they had been eye witnesses in the reign of Charles, and the outrageous disorders which followed the usurpation of Cromwell, were still fresh in their memories, and deterred them from rushing again into the same licentiousness of anarchy, and the same frenzy of fanaticism. The higher orders of men were, also, at this juncture too much alarmed by *real and imminent evils* to distress themselves, or to delude their inferiors by inflammatory representations of those that were ideal or remote. From these events a very important lesson may be derived by persons, who from the eminence of their station and the extent of their influence, are enabled

to command the minds of the multitude; they will find that resistance is most successful when it is well founded—that the passions of the people, in the prosecution even of the best purposes, should not be excited by artificial expedients, and that their concurrence is most effectual, as well as most warrantable, when it springs from *sincere conviction that something ought to be done* for their relief, and is tempered by that good sense which is content with *doing enough*.

Every statesman who feels his own importance, and wishes to employ it for the welfare of the community, should remember the words of Scipio. Multitudo omnis, sicut natura maris, per se immobilis est; venti et auræ cient. Ita aut tranquillum aut procellæ in populo sunt. Causa atque origo omnis furoris penes auctores est. Lib. xxviii. page 658. edit. var.

This beautiful speech seems to be borrowed from the speech of Artabanus in Herodotus :—

"Ἀνθρώπων κακῶν ὁμιλίαι σφάλλουσι· καπάπερ τὴν πάντων χρησιμωτάτην ἀνθρώποισι θάλασσαν πνέυματα, φασὶ, ἀνέμων ἐμπίπτοντα οὐ περιορᾷν φύσει τῇ ἑωυτῆς χρῆσθαι."—Herod. lib.vii. page 517. edit. Wess.

But as an especial curiosity, I copy the character of him who was styled ὁ δεῖνα by the author of the preface to Bellendenus, four years afterwards.

Happy shall I be to find this respectable association strengthened and adorned by the accession of a rising senator, whom his more rational admirers may wish to see connected with other colleagues, employed in a less doubtful cause, and supporting by his counsels that government which it were an inglorious triumph to disturb by his popularity. In the character of this extraordinary man, we see a rare and magnificent assemblage of excellencies, as well natural as acquired; of attainments not less solid than brilliant; extensive learning, refined taste and discernment, both widely comprehensive and minutely accurate. By a kind of intuition he seems to grasp that knowledge of men and things, by which others are compelled to ascend by slow and patient toil. His genius, in the

mean time, acquires fresh lustre from integrity hitherto uncorrupted, and, I hope, incorruptible. The fierceness of ambition he tempers, or is capable of tempering, by the softest and most exquisite feelings of humanity.

> Ὦ παῖ γένοιο πατρὸς [ἡπιώτερος,]
> Τἀ δ' ἄλλ' ὁμοῖος.—Soph. Aj.

To the generous ardour of youth he has added the extensive views of age, and he may without flattery be said to possess at once the captivating eloquence of Callidius, and the yet more fascinating policy of Scipio—"Est enim non veris tantum virtutibus mirabilis, sed arte quâdam ab juventâ ad ostentationem earum compositus."—See Livy, book xxvi. page 454. vol. II. and Tully's Brutus, p. 663. Edit. Verberg.

I would insert the whole note on Episcopalians, but for the fear of rendering this memoir too long. All the notes will, I hope, be published; for Parr discussed the questions contained in them, and especially that of liberty, with a zeal, and let me add, a sobriety and right reason, that do him honour, and would have done him more, had he foreseen what was shortly to happen. But, those awful events then hidden in the womb of night, which were destined to convulse and deform the earth, had not developed even their germ.

The following letter of the present Bishop of Hereford (Dr. Huntingford) alludes to a squib published in the newspapers, on Parr's being supposed to go up in an air balloon then recently used:

> What's that? what is it flying yonder?
> 'Tis Doctor Parr outflying Pindar.

I have heard and read much, my dear Sir, of Pindar's flight "Multa Dircæum levat aura cycnum"—and I remember Horace

prophesies to himself, "Non usitatâ nec tenui ferar pennâ"—but what are the flights of Pindar or Horace to those which you have taken?

Virtus, recludens immeritis mori
Cœlum, negatâ tentat iter viâ.

I don't care in what sense you apply *virtus* to yourself; whether as moral virtue or manly courage, for you have an uncommon share of both, as I know from your friends in the first respect, and from the papers in the second. Is it really true that you have ascended in a balloon? If so, let me first hope that you met with no inconvenience, and then let me congratulate you on so new and pleasant an excursion. Did you meet with the divine bards of other days in the heavenly regions? I am sure Homer and Sophocles would rejoice to admit into their society an enthusiastic lover of their works, as you are known to be. Sophocles would have asked you somewhat about your intention of favouring the world with an edition of his "dulces reliquiæ;" he would have wished to know if you waited for Brunck's edition; then perhaps he would have discoursed with you on what our friend Burney has pretty strongly advanced respecting the power which liquids have to lengthen preceding vowels. For his opinion may be urged,

1. The known usage of doubling consonants for the sake of the metre, among the Attic writers.

2. The continual instances of λ and ρ being doubled for that purpose, as they appear to us, though most likely they were written singly originally, ρ especially had the force of lengthening, by virtue of the aspirate. Against him will be,

1. The innumerable examples, where the ι as in ξεινος and υ as in Ουλυμπος are introduced.

2. That the Latin language, i. e. the Æolic dialect of the Greek, certainly knew of no such power; for it allows vowels to be shortened before a mute and liquid, if not naturally long: and if it lengthens (I mean not by nature) a vowel before a mute and liquid, it is not by virtue of the liquid, but of the concurrence of two consonants.

I was commending the remark to Mr. Burgess, who was unfortunately prevented from a discussion, but immediately said

it had been advanced by very acute men. I had formerly observed in Αἰολοῦ, Odyss. 11. &c. &c. but I doubted whether that was to the purpose, not being an Attic writer (at least not being an Attic of the second age). Morell, I see in p. 41, has somewhat on the subject. I should be very glad to know your sentiments on this matter.

Some weeks ago I troubled you with a letter respecting *Law*. He is a very sensible boy, and will soon acquit himself well in composition, that most material point (after good morals) in school education. You promised me the sight of an epitaph. I hope you will soon send it to your affectionate G. J. H.

From politics and criticism, it is delightful to pass to better subjects—to justice and to mercy. I have already quoted Parr's sentiments on cruelty to animals from the discourse on Education; and how much that feeling was directed to his own kind, he demonstrated on every occasion that could possibly call it forth. His love of mercy, and his abhorrence of the inflictions of the penalties of law, when they were not called for by extreme iniquity, began with his public life, and continued to the end. The letters of Dr. Nathaniel Forster declare how deeply both the friends were wounded by the enormities of the riots in 1780 in London; how much they hated the spirit that then prevailed; and how much they deplored the bloody results. Among Parr's papers are collected narratives of the proceedings at the trials of these rioters; and he has marked with unusual indignation the eloquence and austerity of Lord Loughborough, who presided at them; and the extent to which he carried what he called, and perhaps what he thought, justice, even to children on that occasion. Norwich affords the

first glowing example of the Christian character of Parr's active benevolence, when exerted for the preservation of an unfortunate culprit. Matthew Barker was convicted at the summer assizes of 1784, and condemned to death for house-breaking, and was left for execution by Lord Loughborough. On the day appointed for him to die, some favourable circumstances were brought to light, and by Parr's influence over the sheriff the execution was most humanely deferred by the latter, till these circumstances could be clearly stated to the Judge and the Secretary of State. Parr had been convinced by his intercourse with the prisoner that he was truly contrite; that his crime was the consequence, not of any depraved habits, but of a sudden temptation, arising from extreme poverty and a dread of being arrested for debt. He was respited twice, with great reluctance on the part of the Judge.

The solitude in which he is now kept, the solemn instructions which are given him by several clergymen who visit him in prison, and the natural goodness of his mind, present the fairest hopes of his returning to society, with the most sincere and steady resolution of avoiding future crimes, and of atoning to the utmost of his power for those already committed. From our knowledge of these circumstances, we humbly implore your Majesty's most gracious clemency in granting a free pardon to the unhappy prisoner, after the expiration of ..... months from the time of his condemnation. By this extension of his imprisonment, his example will be more efficacious in the sight of the public, and his mind will be thoroughly stored with virtuous principles, with due and unfeigned submission to the authority of the laws, &c. &c.

This language was employed in a petition to the King, which was supported by all Parr's influence in

Norfolk, and backed by an application of Dr. Pretyman, late Bishop of Winchester, to his pupil Mr. Pitt. It succeeded; Barker was pardoned, and became afterwards a virtuous and useful member of society.

This is not the only case in which Parr used the whole of his interest to save miserable convicts from condign punishment. Few assizes passed at Warwick without application from some one of the culprits, and his consequent interference. The case of a gentleman, who was convicted of murder at Stafford, drew forth every effort of his soul. This unhappy man, indisputably a lunatic, did suffer death, in defiance of the evidence of two eminent physicians, Dr. Arnold of Leicester, and Dr. Edward Johnstone of Birmingham; and Parr was almost his constant companion and his ghostly adviser during the short interval between condemnation and execution. For the Rev. Mr. Brooks, who was arraigned at Warwick for murder, but was declared lunatic by the jury, he advanced upwards of a hundred pounds, that he might not be lost for want of means of defence. The case of Fenning, who was executed for poisoning, he went through, and discussed, and criticised, with the most laborious investigation of enlightened humanity. The documents before me would fill a large volume of these cases of misery, drawn out at length; and it is a balm to the soul of him, who sees so much of afflicted humanity as I do, to contemplate this part of the character of this *Israelite indeed,* comforting him who was ready to perish, and protecting him

when released from bonds. Thus, in this part of his character, was he an instrument by which, " in contingent and emergent events of Providence, God makes compensation to us, for all the evils of chance and hostilities of accident, and brings good out of evil—which is that solemn triumph which mercy makes over justice, when it rides upon a cloud, and crowns its darkness with a robe of glorious light."*

Whilst at Norwich, Parr introduced many useful improvements in the institution and government of that school.

Nor can the reader fail to have some curiosity to know the sentiments of a man on the subject of scholastic discipline, who added long experience to great sagacity ; and who, in the general turn of his mind, was solicitous to correct, rather than abolish, the institutions of civilized life. He has often declared that, upon his intentions and his exertions, as a teacher and governor of youth, he must to the latest hour of his life look back with the purest satisfaction. He professed himself an advocate for the old and salutary discipline of our public schools. He resisted all the specious arguments, which are employed in vindicating those refinements which the partiality of parents, the ingenuity of experimentalists, and the growing luxury of the age, have introduced into the education of our youth. He stoutly appealed to his own personal experience, and to the established practice of our most celebrated seminaries, in favour of those rules, which for many ages have produced the best scholars—the finest

* Jeremy Taylor's ΕΝΙΑΥΤΟΣ, Sermon xxv.

writers—the most useful members of society in private life, and the most distinguished characters in public. Though strict in enforcing the laws, which appeared to him necessary for awakening attention in the indolent, and animating perseverance in the ingenious, he was always liberal of praise, and always anxious to rescue those who were placed under his care from all serious consequences of their juvenile indiscretions. He secretly respected the judgment, which young men might be disposed to form of his talents, principles, and temper. He encouraged in them the noblest sentiments of honour, and an unshaken regard to truth. He took in a wide, but accurate view of the courses, by which their future happiness might be promoted. He was not only a learned instructor, but a faithful adviser, and a steady friend. Such were the opinions, and such the measures of Parr in that humble path of life in which he was doomed to tread, while the companions of his youth were pushing forward with distinguished and merited success in that wide field which was open to them, for the display of their great talents, and the gratification of their honourable ambition. It must be remembered, that Parr was always eager to do justice to the merit of contemporary teachers; and he conceived that their qualifications in the present age were sufficient to support the credit of classical learning, and by the diffusion of it, to correct the mischiefs which sometimes arose from that superficial and desultory reading which is now become fashionable, under the imposing name of general knowledge. It is delightful

to me to record a portion of the praise which he has poured forth on Dr. Benjamin Heath, his successful rival at Harrow:

> I know the obligations under which boys educated at Harrow School lie to the activity and erudition of Dr. Benjamin Heath; and Etonians, from experience, can appreciate more exactly, than common fame enables me to do, the claims which Dr. George Heath may have upon their respect and their gratitude.

He praised the proficiency made in the Greek language by the scholars of Dr. Raine at the Charter House. He thought that in composition, Etonians were distinguished for correctness, and Wykehamists by eloquence; and he, with marked approbation, would expatiate upon the Winchester practice, which directs boys frequently to recite very large portions of Greek and Latin verses. He maintained, that inquisitive and ingenious boys, after repeating passages which they have not regularly learnt, would be anxious to understand what they read, would remember with care what they, of their own accord, and by their own efforts have understood; and that by this process they laid up for themselves a copious and varied supply of poetical imagery and poetical expression. He suspected that the minds of very young boys were seldom improved by writing or reading epigrams; and he contended that the Psalms and Scriptural History were unfit to be translated by beginners, while their stock of Latin words was very small, and while the mechanical structure of hexameters and pentameters was not very familiar to their ears. But the chief defects which he imputed to our

public seminaries were, that a sufficient portion of Latin prose, especially in Cicero and Cæsar, were not read; that too little time was bestowed upon prose composition in that language; and that boys were called upon to invent, before materials for invention could have been collected.* His scheme, therefore, was not that of Milton; he did not proceed with the ambitious or novel design of infusing "extraordinary knowledge into the youthful mind."† Above all, the absurd idea of making children philosophers never entered his mind. He knew that science was not sense; but that, to make sense, was the great groundwork of the intellectual improvement of the future man. He went decidedly with, or rather he was the forerunner of, the opinion of his learned and elegant friend Dr. Symmons; and, to a considerable length, with the courageous and erudite defenders of the antient establishments. I should

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* These defects, which he loudly proclaimed in the latter years of his life, were materially remedied in the system of Archdeacon Butler, the best teacher, as he justly styled him, of his day. The name of this illustrious scholar, and, what is far better, this excellent man, will be introduced at greater length hereafter, not as Parr's scholar, but one of his most beloved friends.

"Oh, namesake! (he exclaims, in a letter dated August 20th 1824, the last but one he ever wrote to him,) how my heart glows when in every company Shrewsbury School is mentioned as holding an equal rank with Eton and Winchester, and when the Master is applauded as a most learned and judicious teacher, and as a wise and venerable governor..... The Bishops of Lincoln and Worcester are most riotous in your praise."

† Symmons's Life of Milton.

almost have thought that he had been the writer or the dictator of the following sentence: "Many able men, offended at the number of years devoted by our public schools to the attainment of language, have indulged in some similar speculations, and have endeavoured to crowd the immature and growing mind with a variety of intellectual food, adapted to oppress rather than to nourish it. But the success of these philanthropic projectors has been very partial; and calculated, on the whole, to attest the wisdom of our established system, which, instilling into the boy the first principles of religion, and, with them, the sanctions and the objects of moral duty, contents itself with cultivating the taste and the attention of its pupil, and with giving him the means of access to the knowledge of his riper years." *

The essence of his observations and his practice is distilled in precious abundance in the Sermons on Education; and on the power of habit and example, and the mode of training different tempers, he has eloquently discoursed, in vol. II. pp. 122—140. I long to quote the luminous and just precepts which he has there delivered: they are golden maxims, and every syllable of them is worthy of remembrance. Education is in part the art of training youth in good habits, by giving virtue first possession of the heart, and leading it on amidst the corruptions of nature, or the temptations of sense, in a regular and undebauched course. He says,

Of what importance is it then to comply with the precept of

* Symmons's Life of Milton, page 156.

my text, and how just is the promise by which we are encouraged to observe it? To our boyhood it gives that sweet simplicity and innocence which melts every serious beholder into affection, and relieves even the most savage heart with a momentary feeling of honest approbation. In our youth it inspires us with such a fine sense of decorum, as makes us shrink from folly with scorn, and from vice with loathing; and it animates us at the same time with that unwearied activity of mind, which struggles with every difficulty, and triumphs over every danger. Our manhood it distinguishes by that firmness and dignity of thinking, which exalts us from one degree of excellence to another, which causes us to start at the smallest deviation from rectitude, and impels us to recover from the shock by the instantaneous and determined exertion of our whole strength. To old age, which is itself the fruit of a well-spent life, it gives a serenity of mind, which the world can neither bestow nor take away—a deep and sincere love of virtue, which finds a pure and perpetual source of pleasure in the effects which it has wrought on the tempers and the manners of our friends and our children—a comfortable remembrance of habitual well-doing, which can alone endear to us the days which are past, and will no more return, or enable us to look on to the approach of the unknown world without solicitude and without dismay.

On first going to Norwich, Parr became curate to the worthy Mr. Tapps, in the churches of St. Saviour and St. George Colgate. The trouble was too great amidst his school labours, and he resigned these two curacies in three quarters of a year. In the spring of 1780 he was presented by Lady Jane Trafford, mother of his pupil, Mr. Southwell Trafford,* to the living of Asterby, Lincolnshire, which he resigned in the spring of 1783, when the same

* Mr. Sigismund Trafford, who afterwards took the name of Southwell.

generous patroness gave him the perpetual curacy of Hatton, Warwickshire. From Asterby he netted only £36 *per annum.* Let it not be supposed that all his friends saw a man of such transcendent talents thus struggling against fortune, and maintaining himself by almost slavish drudgery, with indifference. Lord Dartmouth * confessed his merit,

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* SIR, *Sandwell*, 14 *Dec.* 1781.

You are not to be told the reason of my not having answered the letter which I received from you by the hands of my son, when you sent him home to me in July. My health is now, I thank God, so far restored, that with a little time, and due care, I may hope to be again on a par with other men of my age. It is unnecessary for me to add any thing to what you say of my son. I feel the truth, at the same time that I enjoy the pleasure, of the commendations you bestow upon him; and it will give you some satisfaction to know, that his appearance at Christ Church has not belied the expectations you have raised of him. His first composition was very much approved, and the Governors of the College have expressed their favourable opinion of him in very strong terms. I have no doubt that he will be distinguished there, both for abilities and conduct. He is much obliged to you for the principles he carries with him; and if he is able to withstand the torrent of false maxims, and more dangerous contagion of evil example, which prevail too generally among those of his age, there is nothing great or praiseworthy that may not in time be expected from him. Though my expressions will but poorly convey the sense I have of the attention you have shewn him, and the pains you have taken, both to form his mind and inform his understanding, you will give me leave to return my most hearty thanks, and to assure you, that I shall always think with great satisfaction of the connection that has subsisted between us. Lady Dartmouth desires to join me in compliments to you and Mrs. Parr. I am, Sir, with great truth and regard, your most obedient humble servant, DARTMOUTH.

Rev. Mr. Parr.

was anxious to make some provision for him, and endeavoured possibly to obtain from private friendship what could not be commanded from public influence. Lord Dartmouth asked from Lord Thurlow, then High Chancellor of England, a Prebend of Norwich. It is understood, that the good and venerable Earl was denied his request with an oath. Of Lord Thurlow thus signalizing himself against the cause of learning, I have two words to say, under the heads of Bellendenus, and the Regency. It will be more gratifying to the mind of every virtuous man to learn, that Lord Dartmouth met with a more congenial and complying spirit in Dr. Robert Lowth, Bishop of London, who in 1783 conferred upon Parr, at his Lordship's request, the Prebend of Wenlock's Barn in St. Paul's Cathedral.

As the Prebend of St. Paul's became not only the instrument of independence, but of affluence, to Parr's latter life, I insert at length the letter of that great and good Prelate who presented him to it:

DEAR SIR,

When Lord Dartmouth spoke to me in your favour, I assure you, I most readily and with great pleasure accepted his recommendation. Though it is now a great while ago, I never forgot it; but have never had any opportunity of offering to you any thing that would be agreeable. The Prebend of St. Paul's now vacant, though of little value, yet will be attended with no sort of trouble, but that of taking possession. If you come to town next week, time enough to be collated before the following Sunday, you may read on that Sunday the Service, and your whole business will be finished. You need not bring with you any testimonials; nor so much as your letters of orders; for I

think I ordained you Priest myself. The conditions of the Prebend are as follows:—An estate of £200 per annum is held of the Prebend by lease of 21 years, which, if renewed at 4 years will give a fine of £100; if at 7 years, £250. The late Prebendary was proprietor of the lease, which he took care to renew every year, to keep the term always full.* So you can have no fine till 4 years hence. The reserved annual rent is £18. 10*s*. Bread money (which I cannot explain to you) £3. 9*s*. First Fruits are £21. 6*s*. 8*d*. Tenths, £2. 2*s*. 8*d*. The only duty is, I think, a sermon every year. I am, dear Sir, your most obedient humble servant, R. London.

London House, March 8th, 1783.

I found, says Parr, the Rev. Mr. Newton, afterwards Minor Canon of Norwich, Under-Master of the School. He resigned in a year or two, when I recommended Mr. Beloe. In consequence of my disagreement with this worthless man, he resigned in favour of Mr. Pratt, Fellow of Emanuel College, Cambridge, an acute and honourable man. My assistants were, Mr. Rooke, a Demy of Magdalen College, recommended to me by Dr. Burrough, of the same College. Rooke was succeeded by Daniel Walters, a very ingenious, industrious, faithful, and honourable man, recommended to me by Dr. David Hughes, afterwards Principal of Jesus College, where Daniel had entered as a Servitor. Daniel was too poor to sustain the expense of staying at Oxford till he got a degree. He, however, though not qualified, was made Master of Cardigan School, South Wales, by the good-natured connivance of Dr Watson, Bishop of Llandaff, and by strong recommendations of Dr. Hughes

* Some of those persons who display their courage in assailing a *dead* lion, have censured Dr. Parr for renewing this lease every year, as if it were an unheard-of practice in the Church. We here see that it was the practice of his predecessor, and made known to him, without any expression of censure, by the excellent Prelate who bestowed the Prebend. It is no wonder that Dr. Parr, so notoriously ignorant in these worldly matters, should have followed the example of his predecessor, when stated to him by such authority.

and myself. He in a few years died of a consumption. The father published some Welch Poems, and began a Welch Dictionary, to which I subscribed, but he did not finish it. His brother, John Walters, was a graduate of Jesus College, Oxford, and published some good English Poems. He was more ingenious, but less learned than his brother Daniel. He was much esteemed by Dr. Hughes, and the celebrated Professor White. He was made Master of Ruthyn School, North Wales, and, like his brother, died while young, of a consumption. Wales is not often blessed with such teachers as were Daniel and John Walters. When Daniel left Norwich for Cambridge, I appointed the above-mentioned Mr. Pratt my assistant. Mr. Newton resumed the under-mastership, but soon resigned it, after I had left Norwich, and was succeeded by Mr. Pratt, who was a most valuable instructor.

I succeeded Mr. Lemon in the upper Mastership. Lemon had no talent as a teacher: he had considerable learning, which the good people of Norwich did not sufficiently value. The Etymological Dictionary which he wrote, with the aid of papers left to him by the learned Mr. Spelman of Norfolk, is a decisive proof of erudition. The School sunk under Lemon; and the Corporation, upon his resigning the Mastership, gave him a small living. I was succeeded by the Rev. Dr. Forster, who had been bred at Eton, and gained a classical medal at Cambridge. He had some learning, some taste, and much good-nature; and his mild government, compared with my strictness, made him for some time popular; but his popularity was not of long continuance, and the School began to decline. He went as a private tutor to the son of the Earl of Bristol at Eton, and was deservedly preferred. Forster was succeeded by Valpy, who is probably the best Master that ever adorned the School. The house was much enlarged; the scholars, both oppidans and boarders, most numerous. The School has high, just, and, I am sure, permanent reputation under the present excellent Master.

Such was Parr's own account of his predecessors and successors at Norwich. As the terms of his teaching have not yet been recorded in these Me-

moirs, I now insert them; and the reader will perhaps not look upon them without some surprise, when he compares the terms with those of some popular teachers of the present day.

Printed Terms for Norwich School.

Admission to the school and the house, four guineas.

Teaching, four guineas per annum.

Board and lodging, twenty guineas per annum.

Washing, mending, and house necessaries, one guinea and a half per annum.

A silver spoon, with the name engraven.

For oppidans:

Admission to natives of the City, one guinea.

Admission to scholars, who are not natives, two guineas.

Teaching for each, one guinea a quarter.

School expences for each, 2*s.* 6*d.* per annum.

Extra articles left entirely to choice; for which masters are respectively provided.

Private tuition, four guineas per annum.

Writing and arithmetic, five shillings entrance, ten shillings per quarter.

Italian, one guinea entrance, four guineas per annum.

French, half a guinea entrance, three guineas per annum.

Dancing, five shillings entrance, one guinea per quarter.

Fencing, half a guinea entrance, one guinea per quarter.

N.B. As Master of a free grammar-school, both at Colchester and Norwich, I felt it my duty to admit, and accordingly I did admit, such natives of both towns as were sent to me by the respective Corporations of both towns, and my salary was the proper pay for my care of them. Very few boys were sent me by either of these Corporations. But, soon after my arrival at Norwich, I discovered, and determined to check, a scandalous abuse which had prevailed, with the knowledge and consent of my predecessor. At Bene't College, Cambridge, and, I believe, at Caius, there were scholarships for boys educated at Norwich School; and I found that neighbouring clergymen, and perhaps gentlemen, in order to obtain these scholarships,

had been accustomed to send their boys at a pretty advanced age to Norwich School, to keep them there for a short time, and thus qualify them to become candidates for such scholarships, to the prejudice of natives who were substantially and bonâ fide statutable candidates, because they were born in the town, and had regularly gone through their education in the free grammar-school. My power in the admission of oppidans was a matter of mere discretion; and therefore I announced to the Corporation, and to the neighbourhood, my determination not to admit boys, who boarded in my house, or other houses, and who were not natives recommended by the Corporation, after they were more than twelve or thirteen years old, if there was any probability that boys otherwise admitted had in view scholarships in the University. Yet I admitted boys of a more advanced age as boarders, whether they did or did not mean to go to the University. I always reserved as much as possible the rights of the natives. At the same time, if boys, being boarders, and not natives, passed through the ordinary course of education according to the restrictions, I neither did, nor could interfere with the power of the Corporation to give such boys scholarships; and in point of fact, in one or two instances, such scholarships were given, but I do not remember any instance in which such scholarships were given, when there were natives qualified to be candidates. My regulation put a stop to fraudulent proceedings.

To Norwich he took with him from Colchester Henry Alexander, Henry Headley, Sigismund Trafford, Honourable Henry Legge, the ingenious, learned, and amiable Thomas Monroe, from Bottesdale, Suffolk, afterwards Demy of Magdalen College, Oxford, and one of the authors of the Ollapodrida, and of some verses, Greek, Latin, and English. Among others, who were admitted at Norwich, are the names of Day, Murray, two Chapmans, Browne, Aufrere, Columbine, Sutcliffe, Goddard, Palgrave, Love Robertson, Thomas, son of the Vicar

of Dereham and nephew of the worthy Bishop of Rochester, and Gilbert Matthison, a favourite pupil.

I admitted Edward Maltby, aged 9, January 18, 1779 (says Parr).

Let me pay a tribute of affection and respect to the memory of Henry Headley, son of Henry Headley, of North Waltham. He came to me at Colchester, and was idle. His idleness continued at Norwich. I wished to part with him. His father, with tears, prevailed on me to make a final experiment; it succeeded speedily and amply. He displayed taste, he acquired learning, he composed well, he went to Trinity College, Oxford, and was highly esteemed by Tom Warton. His volume of Poems has some merit; his Collection of Ancient Poetry, in two volumes, shews great research and great discrimination. The Preface abounds with curious learning and original thinking.

Both of the Chapmans were Wranglers, in their respective years. The elder, Charles, became Fellow of Ben'et College, and afterwards incumbent of St. Peter's, Mancroft, in his native city. Benedict was the sixth Wrangler of his year, then Fellow and Tutor of Caius College, and is now the worthy Rector of Ashdon. Although the Doctor differed widely in politics from his pupil and friend, yet he esteemed him highly as an upright, honourable, and generous man. That the confidence between the master and scholar was mutual, may be inferred from the single circumstance, that the latter consulted him about an inscription to the statue of Mr. Pitt. Some of his letters will be copied in the Appendix.

Two West Indians of the name of Cottle were placed under his care also at Norwich. With Thomas Cottle there is a good deal of correspondence.

I am not sure whether a person of that name who wrote an epic poem, was one of this family.

"My worthy and intelligent pupil and patron * Sigismund Trafford Southwell, Esquire, married the daughter of Alderman Crow, lived for some years in Surry-street, Norwich, and bought an estate and good house at Wrexham, where he now resides. May Heaven bless his family!"

Edward Maltby was born at Norwich April 6, 1770, and went to the school as soon as Parr acted as Master.

For more than six years he was there guided along the flowery path of learning, and the foundations of those accomplishments were laid which have made Dr. Maltby one of the great scholars of the age. When Parr resigned the school at Norwich, as Maltby was only fifteen, though head boy of the school, he was sent by his venerable preceptor's advice, to

* The following letter Parr labels from "My pupil, friend, and patron:"

MY KIND FRIEND, *Tuesday 17th*, 1786.

I wish you would, by return of post, let me know into whose hands I can repay the money you was so friendly as to lend me; for as I have it to pay, the sooner I do it the more it will be agreeable to myself, and perhaps useful to you. In the spring, somewhere about the latter end of April, if convenient to you and your good lady, my friendess, I will come and paint your rails at Hatton, so lay in a stock of invisible green. I have not called on Paradise, and what is more, I will not, for a weak man I pity, a fawning one I despise, a false one I hate.

S. TRAFFORD.

P. S. The newspaper has probably told you why I write on black paper, though my being disinherited may perhaps be news; but never mind, as old Bunch makes me independent.

Winchester, and Dr. Joseph Warton, then Head Master of that school, thus speaks of him in a letter to Parr:

SIR, *Winchester, Feb. 9th*, 1787.

I cannot dispense with myself for not answering your obliging letter, though you kindly say you would yourself excuse it. On account of very many and very strong solicitations, upon an extraordinary good character sent to me of —— White, from the clergyman his late master, I have taken him into the school; and your letter is an additional motive. I wish he may resemble Maltby, the best and most amiable of young men. I am, Sir, with true respect, your very obliged, humble servant, JOS. WARTON.

He was entered by Bishop Pretyman, who had married his first cousin, at Pembroke College, Cambridge, and gained the University Scholarship in January 1791, after the most arduous contest that had been then known.* His competitors were Sir

* I owe to the kindness of my learned and eloquent friend Dr. Gardner, Canon of Lichfield, a copy of the minute respecting his examination, extracted from the archives of the University.

Jan. 15, 1791.

At a meeting at the Vice-Chancellor's Lodge, in St. John's College, of the Rev. Dr. Craven, V. C. Rev. Dr. Jowett, King's Reader in Civil Law, Rev. Mr. Porter, King's Professor of Hebrew, and the Rev. Mr. Mansel, Public Orator of the University, being the major part of the Electors into Lord Craven's Scholarship, appointed such by the Will of the Right Hon. Lord Craven, in order to fill up the Scholarship declared vacant Oct. 28th, 1790.

It appeared that three Candidates, Sir Thomas Rivers Gay, Bart. Edward Maltby, Robert Smith, had acquitted themselves in their examination with great credit and ability, in a degree

Thomas Rivers, Bart. and Mr. R. Smith, afterwards Advocate General in Bengal. The struggle lasted three weeks, and so hot was the competition, and so equally matched were the combatants, that the examiners declared it a drawn battle, and desired the youths themselves to assign the prize. Sir Thomas Rivers instantly withdrew his pretensions, as less in need of the pecuniary remuneration than his friends; and Mr. Smith, from some motive of like delicacy, resigned the prize to Maltby. On this occasion there are many notices of Parr's anxiety to know the result of the contest. "Send me instantly an account," he says, "send even an express, the moment the Scholarship is assigned;" and on hearing the result he thus writes:

DEAR EDWARD,

Let me applaud you and congratulate you, with an ardour which is not exceeded by all that is felt for you in the bosom of your parents. I applaud and I congratulate you, dear Ned, again and again; and with the more fervour, and the more triumph, because your competitors have also a right to my applause and my congratulation. It was a furious struggle; and therefore the event is to you the more glorious.

On Sunday, for the first time, I heard a vague and loose account of the business; and yesterday, in a letter from Mrs.

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so equal that the Electors were come to no decision about their relative merits, when two of the said Candidates having voluntarily resigned their pretensions in favour of the third, Maltby, it was agreed to elect Maltby into the Scholarship vacant by the resignation of John Heys.

Signed in the presence of me George Borlase, Notary Public and Registrar. W. Craven, Vice-Chancellor. J. Jowett, R. L. R. J. Porter, Heb. Prof. W. L. Mansel, Public Orator.

Parr, I read the substance of your two letters to me. It was my birthday; and your health, Edward, was proposed by me, next to my own. Go on, Edward, from strength to strength. Give Sir T. Rivers my praise for his ability in the examination, and his delicacy about the decision; and believe me, dear Ned, yours most sincerely, S. PARR.

Nando's Coffee House, Fleet-street, Jan. 27th.

From strength to strength, he did proceed; he took a high degree; he gained the classical medal, and became so eminent as a scholar that he was patronized by the Bishop of Lincoln, as soon as he was of age to take holy orders. His Lordship made him his domestic Chaplain, and the tutor of his children, and settled him in his vicinity, by presenting him with the living of Buckden.

During the whole course of Parr's subsequent life, Dr. Maltby was endeared to him by all those ties which especially bind such men together. He was proud of him as his pupil; he loved him as his friend, and from the year 1779 to January 1825, when I found Dr. Maltby beside the death-bed of his master, with the exception of some occasional difference of opinion, and particularly about one publication, there was an unabated attachment.

Dr. Maltby has never been unemployed. His pen has poured forth instruction, on some of the most interesting and awful topics of our holy religion; and learning has been adorned and promoted by his profound investigations, and his unwearied labours. How much Christianity owes to him, his Sermons and the Illustrations of the Truth of the Christian Religion demonstrate; and how capable he was of bedecking it with the chaste dress of an-

cient lore, his Concio, and his other classical compositions testify. In all these compositions doubtless he consulted his old master; for who did not, who could have the advantage of his critical advice. But I see some angry discussions, that the advice was sometimes asked late, was sometimes reluctantly accepted, and that there were cases in which it was altogether put aside. Hinc illæ lachrymæ! nor do I hesitate to reveal the circumstances of one case, in which the friendship between the pupil and his master was at least put in abeyance. Dr. Maltby has sent me the following letter, written in October, 1815, by Parr, to him — "A specimen," as he says, "of the distant manner he assumed, when any difference had arisen, as had been the case between himself and me, about some metrical points in Morell's Thesaurus."

DEAR SIR,

Knowing well and honouring your good feelings as a husband and a father, I hope you have no inquietude from illness in your family. I hope not to trespass too far on your long-tried attention to my worldly affairs, by requesting that you would have the goodness to stir up my tenant, and to deduct £1 for the sufferers from fire at ..... I received a printed paper, and promised £1. You will pardon the liberty I take in stating, that the Preface to the Thesaurus is written with great perspicuity, and more than usual correctness; especially in the consecution of tenses, and the arrangement and choice of moods. They are in the right manner of a scholar. I shall not run the risk of displeasing you, by pointing out one, and it is the only mistake. I shall return in a fortnight to Hatton, and hope there to be favoured with a letter. Before I finish, let me communicate to you one remark, which was made to me by a most learned man, and which is peculiarly delightful to my soul—he said you were a just and candid critic, and expressed

some surprise, as critics have rarely this transcendental excellence. I beg compliments to Mrs. Maltby; and am, dear Sir, your well-wisher and most respectful servant, S. PARR.

In proportion to Parr's warmth of regard and zeal in the service of his friends, was his disappointment in finding any request which he made to them refused, or any advice neglected. He was jealous to excess in exacting a strict conformity to his will, when he was consulted about any literary work, nor always quite reasonable, when those who consulted him, ventured to differ in opinion. Thus it happened when Dr. Maltby contemplated a new edition of Morell's Thesaurus. Parr was extremely anxious to direct the attention of his friend to many elaborate and recondite works upon metre, which Dr. Maltby thought rather curious than useful, and therefore frankly expressed his disinclination to bestow his time in such reading. He said, "If Dr. Parr was so very anxious upon the subject, and would revise Morell's Treatise himself, or draw up one entirely new, he would print it as Dr. Parr's without alteration; but that, if he was to follow his own ideas, he would accept no assistance whatever." Parr however declined the task of compiling or composing a regular treatise, but sent his friend an immense mass of materials, which Dr. Maltby was unwilling to use; and therefore sent them back, with the exception of some few portions, which are distinctly acknowledged as Dr. Parr's. It was this rejection of his counsels, and perhaps an uneasy feeling that Dr. Maltby had listened more to the advice of Porson than of himself in the commencement of his arduous

undertaking, which produced temporary estrangement, and gave birth to letters like the foregoing. Yet, with a very few exceptions, produced by similar causes, the friendship between the preceptor and pupil continued from the first moment of their connection to its final termination in the death of the good old man. From the time when Maltby quitted him for Winchester school, the Doctor commenced a correspondence, which was pursued on both sides in feelings the most friendly, and accompanied by acts the most kind. In this correspondence, were I at liberty to publish it, or if it accorded with my views as biographer of Parr to lay it before the public, might be seen the whole history of Dr. Maltby's life (an eventful one perhaps for a literary man), the progress of his useful labours, the result of his studies and his reflections.

But it may be enough to say, that in every event of it, whether joyous or the reverse, he found the most cordial sympathy in the bosom of his preceptor; unfeigned joy at the prosperous, and poignant affliction at such as seemed otherwise. It may therefore be supposed, that Parr viewed with intense anxiety the singular and severe contests which his friend sustained for the distinguished post of Preacher at Lincoln's Inn; and that, although he fully acknowledged the learning and talents of Bishop Lloyd; though he revered the genius and amiable disposition of Bishop Heber; yet his heart was intent upon the success of his favourite pupil. His anxiety was at length rewarded when, in Easter Term 1823, Dr. Maltby was raised, by an

unanimous vote of the Benchers of that learned society, to one of the most honourable, though by no means lucrative situations, in which any ecclesiastic in this or any other country can possibly be placed. That illustrious body, which has so often on former occasions distinguished itself by the choice of preachers, by the election of such men as Donne and Gataker, as Archbishops Usher and Tillotson, and as Bishops Gastrell, Warburton, and Hurd, no less than by its general patronage of merit, and its love of piety and learning, finally elected Dr. Maltby their preacher.

For nearly five years has Dr. Maltby held a situation which has been constantly filled by the most distinguished scholars and divines who have adorned the annals of our Church; and if I may judge by the single specimen * of his labours, which has yet been given to the public, and by the character which his Discourses have acquired, especially those on the Gospel of St. Luke, he has fully justified the choice of the Benchers, and the expectations of his venerable Master.

In 1781 Parr took the degree of LL. D. in the University of Cambridge, having kept two Acts and supported two Theses before Dr. Hallifax, afterwards Bishop of St. Asaph, from whom he received the following letter:

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* See the Dedication of a Visitation Sermon, preached before the late Bishop of Lincoln in 1825, and published at the request of his Lordship and the Clergy.

DEAR SIR, *Warsop, Notts, 6th Jan.* 1781.

Your favour of the 2d instant, sent to me at my brother's in Albemarle-street, I did not receive till this day, and I hasten to acknowledge it by the return of the post. I left London on Monday last, the 1st inst. and mean to stay here till the end of the present month. On the 1st of February I hope to be completely settled at Cambridge, and shall then be ready to receive and obey your commands. In the mean time, I wish to accommodate myself to your conveniency as well as I can. If you have any particular questions on which you would choose to make your *Theses* (for I speak in the plural number, as there must be two of them), let me know. I am not ignorant of the merits of the person with whom I am to commit myself; and will endeavour not to disgrace you or myself when we come to closer quarters. I remember with pleasure the happy hours we have passed together at Stanmore and Brooks Hill, and shall indulge a conscious pride in shewing to the University, that I know how to distinguish between a man of real literary merit and a flimsy sciolist. If you favour me with a line, direct to me *near Mansfield, Notts*, without any other town's name. Fix your own time for your acts, and I will suit myself accordingly. With my compliments to Mrs. Parr, I am, dear Sir, very truly your most obedient servant, S. HALLIFAX.

Parr's Acts in the schools excited a good deal of curiosity. His Theses were fine compositions; but not having a complete command over his papers, he bungled in referring to them, and thus embarrassed the disputations. "I must beg to have a sight of your Thesis, (says Dr. Forster, in a letter which has already been copied,) whether you print it or not, but I hope you will print it. I wish much to see a style in modern Latin. I hear from Roderick a most splendid account of your proceeding at Cambridge."

He buried his daughter Jane in the cloisters of

the Cathedral Church at Norwich. She was born at Colchester, and died in 1782. Mrs. Parr, in a letter to her husband, then about to quit Norwich for Warwickshire, entreats him not to forget the tomb in the cloisters before he takes his leave. His youngest daughter, Catharine, was born at Norwich in 1781.

CHAP. III.

From 1786 *to* 1790.

What Dr. Parr's immediate motive was for resigning the school at Norwich, I do not find. In August 1785 he formally sent in his resignation, and went to reside at Hatton at Easter 1786. Whether the charms of a country life had fascinated his imagination, or whether his spirits wanted repose and retirement, from the noise and bustle of a public school, it is clear that he was not easy, and his letters to the Rev. H. Homer open to us some of the fancies which he then indulged.

At Norwich, in a letter to Walter Pollard, Esq. of Furnival's Inn, he exposes with the greatest confidence, many of his private feelings and anxieties, and doubts about securing a moderate competency.*

Pollard had been his scholar at Stanmore, but was obliged to flee from England, and borrowed money from him in his embarrassments. Parr calls him a very acute, learned, and wrong-headed man.

The following observations were extorted from

* For a minute account of Pollard, see Memoirs of the Author of Indian Antiquities, part 1. pp. 62—82, &c.

Parr by Pollard's representation of his own distresses.

DEAR SIR, *March 29th*, 1782.

Most sincerely do I lament the difficulties with which you have struggled, and most warmly do I applaud the fortitude with which you have sustained them. Let me beseech you, dear Sir, not to confound omission with neglect, nor to charge upon coldness towards your interest, or indifferenee about your friendship, a silence that was really the result of other causes. The fluctuating state of my body between health and sickness, and even between life and death, has produced a general relaxation of that activity with which I had been accustomed to attend to the affairs of my friends. You desire my confidence; and I therefore add, that the little progress I have made in worldly matters, the heavy losses I have sustained by the war, the inconsiderable advantages I have gained by a laborious and irksome employment, and the mortifying discouragements I have met in my Clerical profession, have all conspired to depress my spirits and undermine my constitution. I was content to give up ecclesiastical preferment, while I had a prospect of making some comfortable provision for my old age in my business as a teacher; but the best of my years have now elapsed, and I am, through a most vexatious and trying series of events, not a shilling richer than when I went to Stanmore. I have this very week closed an account on which I stood indebted near £2,000, which I was obliged to borrow when I launched into active life. My house at Stanmore I sold literally for less money than I expended on the repairs only. To this loss of more than a thousand pounds, I am to add near £700, which I may lose entirely, and must lose in a great measure, by the reduction of St. Vincent and St. Kitts. My patience, so far as religion prescribes it, is sufficient to support me under this severity of moral trial—but the hour is past in which I might hope to secure a comfortable independency, and I am now labouring under the gloomy prospect of toiling with exhausted strength for a scanty subsistence to myself and my family. It is but eighteen months that I could pronounce a shilling my own; now, indeed, *meo sum pauper in ære*—but my

integrity I ever have held fast, and suffer me to tell you that you mistake in imputing to me absolutely a change of conduct. To the principles of the late Administration I never acceded; and in my conversation I have steadily and uniformly opposed the subtlety of the Scotch and the tyranny of the Bedfordians. I congratulate my country, and bless him who *consulit et mihi et urbi*, that these pestilential enemies of all free and virtuous Governments are at last crushed; but the distresses and dangers of the kingdom were so alarming that I wished for some kind of union, and was unwilling to obstruct many measures which seemed to tend to the common safety. You will see my political principles in my Sermon; and you will also see that my politics, my morals, and religious notions, all coincide, and all conspire to one great end, national happiness, built on national reformation. In my words and deeds my love of real liberty has never cooled for a moment; and though, in the perplexed state of our public affairs, I thought moderation a temporary duty, yet I never stooped to the meanness of apostacy, and never gave up the cause of America, and never coloured over the deformities of character which belong to those corrupt wretches who have in reality, though in secrecy, so long and so fatally controlled the Counsels of this unhappy Kingdom. But I begin now ἀνακνπτειν κάρα. As I did not disapprove of all the persons employed in the late Administration, so I cannot approve of all concerned in this. There is, however, a wonderful concentration of eminent and indisputable ability; and in Lord Rockingham and Lord Althorp, in Burke, and others I could name, there is, I trust, a pure and disinterested love for the public good. They have my best wishes, and my firmest support. I intended writing to you about a parcel for our friends Julius and Gardiner, at St. Kitts, but I must wait for better, or at least further tidings. Remember me to Jones and Paradise, with whom I exclaim, as sincerely as they can, εὑρήκαμεν—συνγχαίρωμεν.

You will see me in August or July.

Believe me, yours heartily, dear Pollard,

S. Parr.

To Walter Pollard, Esq.

What fortune he had secured in 1785, could not have gone far in maintaining him without labour; the increase of income from Hatton and his prebend did not amount to one hundred a year. He was still therefore obliged to take pupils, a smaller number at a larger price. The house at Hatton, though comfortable enough, contained no room sufficiently large for his library; so he built that square room, which for more than forty years was one of the porches of the Academy of England, and will not be forgotten whilst the present generation of learned men survives.

Before Parr left Norwich, it appears from the correspondence, that he wished not merely to enjoy the country, but to be useful to the county in which he was about to reside. He applied to his friend Henry Homer, whose brother was an attorney at Coventry, for his advice how he might be placed in the commission of the peace for the county of Warwick.

My brother, says Mr. Homer, thinks there would be little difficulty, by signifying your desires to Mr. Hewitt, of Coventry, Clerk of the Peace for the County, or to the Lord Lieutenant, the Earl of Hertford. Let me acquaint you that an acting magistrate is much wanted in your neighbourhood, and that another gentleman (a Mr. Moland, of Solihull) wishes to be put on, and it may save some trouble for both of you to get into the same commission; and my advice is, that you take as early a step as possible.

From the Right Hon. Mr. Windham he received the following answer, about the same time, upon the same subject:

DEAR SIR,

I take shame to myself on various accounts, for having so long delayed to write to you. To take that first which is first in order of time, I should have informed you that, upon receipt of your letter, I wrote immediately to Lord Beauchamp, and received an answer perfectly civil, saying that from knowledge of you, as well as in compliance with my request, he should not fail to give your name to Lord Hertford, against the issuing of the next commission.

These applications failed; he was not permitted to be useful to his neighbourhood in the capacity of a county magistrate.

When a commission of the peace was issued in 1795, Parr wrote to Lord Warwick, expostulating with him on his name being omitted in so large a nomination of justices of the peace. Lord Warwick sent the following answer:

SIR, *Shrewsbury, October 28th*, 1795.

I apprehend that the proper answer to the letter which I have just received from you is, that I do not consider myself as responsible to any individual for the motives of my conduct, when acting in the discharge of my public duty.

I am, Sir, your obedient, humble servant,

WARWICK.

But it was impossible that such a mind as Parr's, now in the meridian of its brightness, should rest, occupied merely with the common avocations of life. Politics had induced him to think of the republication of Rapin; and I suspect that disappointment in political hopes induced him to think of some other means of venting his political opinions. It seems from a letter of the amiable, pious, and learned Bishop of Hereford, Dr. G. J. Hunting-

ford,* dated Winton College, December 5, 1784, that he was then inquiring about Bellendenus.

Dr. Warton has not got Bellendenus' Book de tribus Luminibus. He says the title always appeared to him a very affected and fantastical one, and he knows not the meaning of it. You say Tully is one. In what capacity? as an orator, philosopher, or critic? What think you of Tully, Horace, and Quintilian? Or Lucretius, Catullus, and Virgil? But I am rash to conjecture, when Dr. Warton will not venture to give a single hint.

I find no other mention of Bellenden in the early correspondence; but it appears from "The Remarks on the Statement," that Parr had conversed with Henry Homer on the work of Bellendenus de tribus luminibus Romanorum, and on the suspected plagiarism of Conyers Middleton. Homer took the book to him in the autumn of 1786. Parr immediately went to work, and Dr. Maltby says in a letter, dated, "Buckden, May 2, 1794, "That in December 1786 and January 1787, I transcribed for you the Preface to Bellenden twice," &c. &c. The Honourable Augustus Legge was another amanuensis; but Parr, in his Remarks on the Statement of Dr. Charles Combe, himself gives a history of the republication of Bellenden at pages 42, 43, 51, which exactly tallies with the correspondence that now lies before me. The following criticism of his friend Dr. Bennet, subsequently Lord Bishop of Cloyne, found amongst Parr's pa-

* I shall have occasion to introduce many letters of his Lordship hereafter; and thankfully would insert the whole correspondence, did the prescribed limits permit me to indulge my own inclination.

pers, but whether published or not in the periodical Reviews of the time, I have not yet learned, will give the best possible account of this celebrated work, but I am obliged to lop off more than one half of the original:

William Bellenden, a Scotch writer, (whose name, we confess, was more familiar to us than his works,) flourished at the beginning of the seventeenth century, and is said to have been a Professor in the University of Paris. At Paris he certainly sojourned long, for it was there he published, in 1608, his Cicero Princeps, a singular work, in which he extracted from Cicero's writings detached remarks, and compressed them into one regular body, containing the rules of Monarchical Government, with the line of conduct to be adopted, and the virtues proper to be encouraged, by the Prince himself; and the treatise, when finished, he dedicated, from a principle of patriotism and gratitude, to the son of his master, Henry, then Prince of Wales. Four years afterwards, namely in 1612, he proceeded to publish another work of a similar nature, which he called, Cicero Consul, Senator, Senatus Romanus, and in which he treated with much perspicuity, and a fund of solid information, on the nature of the Consular Office, and the constitution of the Roman Senate. Finding the works received, as they deserved, with the unanimous approbation of the learned, he conceived the plan of a third work, de Statu prisci Orbis, which was to contain a history of the progress of government and philosophy, from the times before the Flood to their various degrees of improvement under the Hebrews, Greeks, and Romans. He had proceeded so far as to print a few copies of this work in the year 1615, when it seems to have been suggested that his three treatises, De Statu Principis, De Statu Reipublicæ, De Statu Orbis, being on subjects so nearly resembling each other, there might be a propriety in uniting them into one work, by re-publishing the two former, and entitling the whole Bellendenus de Statu. With this view, he recalled the few copies of his last work that were abroad, and, after a delay of some months, published the three treatises together, under their new title, in the year 1615. In the British

Museum (that admirable repository of curious books) one copy of the book De Statu prisci Orbis, dated in 1615, still exists, which the author had probably sent into England as a present, and could not recall; and in all the others the date appears, on a nice inspection, to have been originally MDCXV. and to have had an I afterwards added, on the alteration of the author's plan. The Editor has shewn great ingenuity in clearing up this typographical difficulty. The great work being now completed, Bellenden looked forward with a pretty well-grounded expectation for that applause which his labour and his ingenuity deserved. But his views were disappointed, by one of those events that no art of man could foresee or remedy. The vessel in which the whole impression was embarked was overtaken by a storm before she could reach the English coast, and foundered with all her cargo. A very few copies only, which the learned author either kept for his own use or had sent as presents by private hands, seem to have been preserved from the destruction which awaited the others; and this work of Bellendenus has, therefore, from its scarcity, often escaped the notice of the most diligent collectors. It is not to be found in the library of the Duke of Argyle, nor in that of the late Dr. Hunter; neither Morhoffius nor Fabricius had ever seen it; the Observationes Literariæ, published at Magdeburg in 1705, and the Amœnitates Literariæ, at Frankfort in 1728, both of which treat learnedly and copiously on scarce books, make no mention of it; in a word, the single treatises are so rare, that not above ten of them are to be found in all the libraries of England. And of the larger work, it does not appear that more than six copies are known to exist; one in the public library at Cambridge, a second in that of Emanuel College in the same University, long admired as a well-chosen collection of excellent books; a third in All Souls Library at Oxford; and two in the possession of the Editors.* These gentlemen appear to have been stimulated to oblige the public with the present edition, not only from the scarcity of the original work, but from another circumstance, in some degree connected with it. Bellenden, it seems, concerned, but not discouraged at his loss,

* There is another in the library of Shrewsbury School, left by Dr. Taylor, editor of Demosthenes, to that foundation.

determined to arrange his materials in another form. By the intimate acquaintance with Cicero's writings into which the nature of his plan had led him, he had learned to admire the solidity, as well as feel the elegance, of that charming author, who expresses stronger sense in better words than all the writers of his country taken together. Bellenden, therefore, now conceived the idea of a work, which he entitled De tribus Luminibus Romanorum; and in which he designed to have examined the characters and explained the merit of Cicero, Seneca, and the elder Pliny.* The first of these he finished; but was prevented by death from completing his plan. This circumstance of the *tria lumina* appears to have suggested to the minds of the Editors the idea of re-publishing the three original treatises of Bellendenus de Statu, and dedicating them to the Tria Lumina Anglorum, Lord North, Mr. Fox, and Mr. Burke.

But the most extraordinary, and I know not whether we may not say the most important part of the work, is a Preface of 86 pages, containing the most vehement attack upon the present Ministry that we have ever seen, and written in such Latin as we must congratulate this Country upon being able to produce. We know and have felt the elegant Latinity of Lowth, and Barford, and Sir William Jones. We have seen a Clerum by Dr. Sumner of Harrow, which was deservedly out of print, as soon as it was published; but we have never met with more critical discrimination, with bolder variety of phrase, with finer words, and with fuller periods, than in the composition before us.

The Preface begins with the account of Bellenden's death,

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* It seems from the following letter of Dr. Eaton, Bishop Lowth's Chaplain, that Parr had doubts of one of the Lumina, and had conversed with the Bishop on the subject:

DEAR SIR, *Dean-street, Dec. 9th*, 1786.

The Bishop of London's health is so very indifferent, and his memory so much affected by it, that I despaired of being able to shew him your letter in dextro tempore; but on Thursday morning I found him in better spirits than usual, and immediately produced your letter. He did not recollect the conversation you mention, but, without the least hesitation, said that the Pliny you allude to must be the Naturalist. I am, dear Sir, your obedient servant, ST. EATON.

while he was engaged in his work De Tribus Luminibus Romanorum.

Some pages are then taken up with a review of Bellenden's three treatises; after which the Editors hasten to what was a favourite part of their work, a panegyric on the oratory and abilities of the Tria Lumina Anglorum, to whom their labours are inscribed. They first lament the neglect which Mr. Burke has lately experienced from those who depreciate the eloquence they cannot imitate. "Fuerunt inter Romanos (say our Authors, p. 7.) qui Marcum Tullium incessere audebant, ut timidum Asianumque et redundantem. Nostra etiam in ætate non desunt, qui eandem de Burkio nobis insusurraverint insulsam et frigidam cantilenam." This charge they refute with the indignation it deserves; and conclude with a compliment to that integrity of life which gives their friend's eloquence its full weight and importance. The good humour and good nature of Lord North, the propriety and information of his speeches, form the next subject for their panegyric, where the delicate mention of the American war (to which it is plain they were no friends) gives us a very high idea of their own oratorical abilities. They next come to Mr. Fox, on whom they are very copious and discriminative, observing, what we also have observed, his singular excellence in conducting a debate; how well he knows what ground to seize, and how to seize it. With what power he throws the question into a new light; how he retreats fighting from untenable ground, non abjecto, sed ne rejecto quidem scuto. Upon the dissolution of Parliament, which removed their three luminaries from the helm of Government, they let fall all the weight of their indignation, and attack the "Oratores novi, stulti, adolescentuli," with great severity. The Minister himself now becomes the object of their censure; his youth and inexperience are dwelt upon, with more elegance of Latin, perhaps, than novelty of remark; but much also is added that is both forcible and new.

Continuing thus to enter into all the great questions in politics, and the arguments usually urged for or against the measures of government, they proceed to a very interesting part of their plan, the views and characters of the minister's principal adherents. The men brought forwards upon this occasion to public notice are Clodius, who is supposed to be a well known

city officer; Doson, a person once high in administration, and remarkable for his promises more than his performances; Novius, a great officer in the law; Miso-Themistocles, a particular enemy to military merit; and Thrasybulus, a native of the North, who takes the lead in the affairs of India. Of all these, characters are given at length, drawn indeed in no very flattering colours, but designed so strongly, and finished so elegantly, as must convince the world that Mr. Fox has friends who, in Latin prose as well as in English poetry, have left all imitation behind them.

The rest of the Preface is taken up with editorial business about the work, with some very liberal and ingenious remarks on the eminence of the Scotch writers in moral philosophy, and with a defence of the Authors themselves, their digressions on politics, their mode of writing Latin, and the length of their Preface; and this is glanced upon with a dignity that shews the spirit of a master, and the firmness, without the insolence, of conscious merit. It has been objected, indeed, and that even by friends to the work, that the political disquisitions might have been compressed into a less enormous bulk, without much sacrifice of their real force, and its enemies have clamoured loudly against the introduction of so many Greek words in Latin sentences, and the long and frequent quotations; while others have suggested that such phrases as "nodum in scirpo quærere," "aquam hærere," and "fluctus in simpulo excitare," (though nothing can be objected against the Latinity,) are not well suited to the rich expressions and harmonious pauses of Cicero, which are to be met with in every period. For answer to these objections, we can do no less than refer our reader to the Preface itself, where he will find them substantially removed. For ourselves, we shall not cease to admire the whole as a treasure of fine writing, and recommend it most sincerely to the study of every young reader, who wishes to comprehend the nicer elegancies of the Latin language; the use of the subjunctive moods, for instance, the force of the indefinite, the beauty of the connecting particles, and all that variety and grace of position which can neither be defined nor taught, and is to be attained only by an intimate acquaintance with the Classics themselves, which the best scholar finds it difficult to use, and which none but a good scholar can feel when they are

used. With the party principles of the Authors we have no concern; in their mode of defending them, we see much speciousness and ingenuity; and the scholars on the Continent, whatever they may think of our politics, will have no reason to speak contemptuously of our Latin, after so extraordinary a specimen of it. In a word, we cannot estimate too highly the improvement, as well as the pleasure, we have received from this work, and must apply to the Cicero of Bellenden, published as it is, what Quintilian says so forcibly of the Roman writer himself: "Illum se profecisse sciat, cui Cicero valde placebit."

Henry Homer,* Fellow of Emanuel College, Cambridge, of a respectable family in Warwickshire, was Parr's editor of Bellendenus. There is some correspondence on the removal of Parr's goods and books to Hatton, and Homer is employed to arrange the carriage with a relation of his at Birmingham. But there is no mention of Bellendenus while Parr lived at Norwich. It seems by a letter from Homer, dated Emanuel College, July 13th, 1786, that some conversation had taken place between Homer and Parr about Bellenden at Hatton, and that he had employed Homer to collate the Cambridge editions with his own.

I only wrote the title page of Bellendenus, that, if you thought it worth inspecting, you might have it. I have had it in my room some time, and have always forgot to send you the difference of the contents from your own. I will promise you, I shall not grudge copying as many sheets as you like, for the purposes you mention, if you think there would be any very apposite.

It has been so much the fashion of late years to edite books, or write verses for the purpose of prefaces or the appendage of notes, that this edition of

* There is an affecting account of Parr's friendship and intercourse with Homer, in the Answer to the Statement of Dr. Combe, pp. 20, seq.

Bellendenus was criticised as written for this purpose. Homer alludes to such spiteful remarks in the following sentence:

Dr. James, and all Eton admire; therefore a fig for the Masters of B——t and E——l; the one I don't think could construe it, and it would have cracked the other's skull, especially after a soaking debauch; the one must hate it, the other is not eminent enough to despise it. If I hear F—— make the same assertion he shall know from some corner in a paper that he lies; as the book was first thought of, and the Preface was of subsequent consideration. You must remember that I said, the preface must never be lowered in point of dignity; therefore be assured, that any misconstructions thereupon would as sensibly touch me as you.

Bennet was occasionally employed to inspect the proof sheets; and I insert the following letter, as a proof of his opinion, and in addition to the criticisms:

MY DEAR FRIEND, *February* 1787.

I have restrained myself from answering your letter, that I might have time to give you my opinion of the three or four sheets which arrived by the post this morning; and I cannot sufficiently express my obligation for the entertainment I have received. With the Latinity not only no fault is to be found, but every excellence of composition; and I shall recommend it to the diligent perusal of all my young men of literature here, as a model to form their taste. A few errors in the press I now and then correct, and such doubts as I have about matters of fact (for matters of opinion are out of the question), I take the liberty to refer you to Homer. For instance, in the quotation from Ælian, p. 37, are you sure it was *consulem quondam*? I thought there was a particular law, that no Consul should govern Egypt, and Tiberius in Tacitus is angry with Germanicus for going there; observing in another place, Divus Augustus apud equestres, qui Ægypto præsiderent; and Muretus says in his note, there was a condition Ægypt should be free, if the Roman fasces ever came to Memphis: non a Proconsule aut Proprætore administrabatur Alexandria, sed a Juridico aut liberto Cæsaris. The quotation in your book is only Fragment

Æl. without specifying the place; as I would have looked and settled the matter for you. Another matter of fact I venture to doubt about, when you say, p. 45, the new peers are magnam partem aut prædones Asiæ opibus superbientes aut *vere* loco infimo—of the latter description perhaps there are enough, though you do not, I hope, mean to adopt the newspaper clamours about Charles Jenkinson of Oxfordshire, one of the first Commoner families in England for antiquity, and of very good estate. To this, however, I say, as generally expressed, there can be no objection. But I do not recollect any peer that comes under the first description. Lord Clive is an Irish peer, and therefore no senator, and as to Lord Pigot, whose title also is extinct, if I am right, you are wrong in your assertion. I cannot enough admire your quotations through the whole Preface. They have a depth of learning with an elegance of selection that are seldom united. Homer has sent me down the print, with the motto altered as I wished.

And so, you want me to reckon up Pitt's good actions, and so fall upon me with your eloquence. No, my friend, I will laugh with you on politics; but I will dispute no more. If the side you have adopted be that which means sincerely the welfare of the Country, may it succeed! At any rate, may your labours in the cause lead you to those emoluments and honours which neither your merits nor your virtues, *without* party zeal, are likely in this age to obtain. If you are likely to be in London at Easter, I shall hope to see you. I am going to read the fourth sheet with care, and send it off by to-morrow's post. Your's very affectionately, W. Bennet.

Sunday Eve.

P. S. You are sure you are safe on the side of the law, both in the quotation from Terence of Thurlow, "lubrica in verbis fides;" and from the same censure on the Duke of Richmond, "Justus ipse cum neque sit neque videatur." Might not the phrase be softened by *nimis*, or some such word? You think that you are guarded on the side of Scotus. I am not sorry for the trimming you give the rascals; they are bad instruments—I think not in a bad cause—But if you had fallen more violently on Verres, I should have grieved. He is attacked on one side, because they hate him; and on the other, because they fear

him; and his services to his Country (for which it appears to me that his worst actions were committed) are forgotten by both.

Bennet, though of different politics, was sincere in his admiration of Bellendenus.

MY DEAR FRIEND, *Emanuel, Feb.* 27.

I thank you for the confidence you have reposed in me, by making me acquainted with your scholastico-political plan; and rejoice most unfeignedly that you have at last undertaken a work which will shew posterity your talents in Latin composition. Homer, encouraged by your example, lent me as much of the Preface as is finished; and you will, or at least ought, to believe me, when I declare I never read a more elegant composition in my life. I am delighted with the three Dedications, and particularly that to him, cujus — nunquam fides virtusque contremuit. Your motto from Aristophanes is not to be exceeded; the hunc tu Deâ I think not so highly of; and if you would trust my taste, I would beg you to alter the secundis temporibus dubrisque rectus, because every body may say that of every body—and go on with it, pray go on with it,

Consulque non unius anni
Sed quoties bonus atque fidus
Judex honestum, &c. &c.

Never let us be general in a matter of this sort, when we can be so strikingly particular. As to Homer's idea that Agamemnon will be offended at it, depend upon it (if he can get any body to construe it to him) he will never forgive what is written already, so this slight addition to the offence is below your notice. I repeat that I never read so fine a piece of Latin in my life, and this is a great deal for me to say, when you consider how much my principles are shocked by the *matter* of the work. I will deny that you are the author, but I am sure it will be known. Who is there else that can write any thing like it? The petty scholars of the age may publish a Latin Clerum, translated from an old Sermon, (always excepting Sumner's, to whom just praise is due,) or now and then, in a fit of rashness, venture to write a line on a stone in a church-yard; but farther they say not. While the Editor of this work—effinxisse mihi videtur vim Demosthenis, copiam Platonis, jucunditatem

Isocratis. I sent up Phileleutherus; but the other two works I lost, with all my little Latin morsels, viz. Sumner's Clerum and Taylor's Speeches, several little things of Jones, yours, and Archdale's, which were stolen from me, as I suspect, by a young man who was allowed a very familiar entrance into my rooms, and made a bad use of it. Your friend White is said to have succeeded to the living of Melton, in Suffolk; and as he will not probably reside there much, Lambert is very anxious to have a relation and namesake of his, the present Curate, continued. You will oblige him very much if you can assist him in this view.

The Dissenters (Price at their head) are going to have a motion made for the repeal of the Test Act. The Bishops had a meeting at Lambeth, and all determined to oppose it but Shipley and Watson.

I have seen the Criticisms on Xenophon, which are very good and scholarlike, far superior to the general turn of critical remarks, and on the whole too learned for the readers of reviews; and I do rejoice that you have at last published something, not even yet in your own name, but which will be given to you. I am really glad to the heart. But to return to your criticisms in the review. Though Hurd deserves punishment, and severely too, for his impudent sneers at better scholars than himself, yet his note against Dorville is certainly an ingenious one. You must spare Cooke for every reason; but principally because he is really mad, and ought long ago to have been confined. Porson has not given up his Æschylus, that I can hear, though he proceeds slowly. I rejoice that your daughter is recovered, and mean to see your retirement, and admire your orthodoxy, in the course of the next summer. Adieu! very sincerely and affectionately yours, WM. BENNET.

To the Rev. Dr. Parr, Hatton, near Warwick.

On March 16th, 1787, Homer writes to Parr thus:

Bennet longs for the completion, and writes to me in these terms: "ut nihil supra, as to Latinity—read, admired, and applauded, it must be, by *all* parties, however some may smart under the rod (I mean those who can read); perhaps old Thurlow cannot; or, as usual, will affect to despise all knowledge but that which is producible at a common forum.

Again, in another letter, Homer says:

As you had explained so much to Bennet, I first shewed him the dedications; and Lord North's he had read over two or three times, saying, he thought it the most elegantly turned composition he had ever read. I then shewed him the printed part of the Preface, and he declared it was, by far, the best Latin he had ever seen; that he had long wished you would shew your powers in this line. He says, the book will be scarce again, and I believe him to be sincere.

As Bennet had touched on the question of law; it was sensitively felt by Parr, who propounded it in turn to Homer.

"Conjecture was busy," says Parr, "in finding personal or political allusions," in the vowels of his own and Homer's name, at the end of the Preface.

The whole work came out in London, and Parr observed all the little arts of secrecy to conceal his name. It escaped not however the penetration of Mr. Reed and Mr. Steevens, who were consulted by Homer, that Parr was the author, and Reed was afterwards interested and employed in the publication of the Warburtonian Tracts. Of both these annotators on our great Bard, there are several notices in Homer and Parr's correspondence. The following letters will exhibit a specimen of Parr's acrimonious feelings, and his manner of expressing them towards Steevens.

DEAR HOMER,

The more I think upon the Preface, the more I feel my fears growing upon me. I am frightened about that fellow Steevens; and I do forbid, as much as I dare, your giving him a copy. What right has he to know you have any concern in it? and what conclusions will he not draw from you to me? What base, and even dangerous, use will he not make of these

conclusions? Make my mind therefore easy, dear Harry, and bind yourself by a solemn promise to give Steevens no copy. He is a bitter foe—he is incapable of being a sincere friend. I am unwilling for our correspondence to go on in the present train. I wish Mr. Sheridan to be the franker, and Bruton-street is less distant than Aldermanbury; and I will give you a letter of introduction, when you authorize me to do so, whereby you may settle the time and manner of conveyance. Maltby tells me that Steevens looked about your room with a curious and inquisitive eye. I wish you would order him not to be admitted, especially in your absence. Letters may come in while you are absent. What do you know of the black letter, to let this black man so fascinate you? Homer, be not cajoled by any compliments he may pay to you or myself. He has F—'s heart and F—'s principles, with a worse character and a better head. *I tremble about the packets, &c.*

Franked by Sheridan, Birmingham, August 26th, 1787.

DEAR H. *Hotel, Birmingham.*

I am just setting off for Cheshire (Crewe Hall). Critics, translators, answerers, all abroad. Well! so it should be. What is much read, is not much despised; what is opposed, is also feared; what is answered in English, must be formidable from other qualities than singularity, when it is written in Latin. Let them scold, and refute; it will extend the sale, and not shake the ultimate credit of the book. I answer nothing. Do you collect all news, and, depend upon it, they will get some able advocates—but what then? I am sure Steevens is at work, and *I have reason to suspect P———*. This is between us. But you will oblige me if you will take an early opportunity of speaking thus to Mr. Steevens: "Dr. Parr thinks and speaks highly of your talents, taste, and erudition, and has often defended you. He is acquainted with the whole of your character; he is ready enough to own his dislike of you as a man, and he says, from certain peculiarities he knows of in your life and character, you are the last man he would spare, if provoked. You are one of the first men he would suspect of calumniating him; and he has an immense store of facts collected against you, which he declares, before all mankind, he

will hurl at you with all his might, if you do him any injustice *secretly*. Of your open censure he is not afraid; and yet he sets a great value on your praise, when it is sincere.

Certainly, neither of the Editors had much confidence in the good-will of Steevens; for, when the subject of advertising was in agitation, Homer says, "Steevens has a share in the St. James's,* and *therefore I shall not put* into that." Of the immense labour of Homer in editing Bellenden, I could produce some hundred documents from his correspondence with Parr. On the inspection of every sheet, some change of expression or sentiment, some classical illustration, or some lucky hit, continually altered the page; commas, colons, and semicolons, were the subjects of many angry letters; one whole sheet was even cancelled for some errors that might have been readily corrected; and the patience of readers in some future years will, I hope, be exercised and rewarded by a perusal of the whole correspondence between Homer and Parr on the subjects of Bellenden and the Warburtonian Tracts. The following letter I have selected as a specimen of the typographical accuracy, and of the moral rectitude and veracity of Parr:

DEAR HOMER, *Post-mark, March* 20, 1787.

I am at all times sorry to give trouble; but I now give it for the last time, and I do not only request as a friend, but I do call upon you by all that can be dear to my feelings, to execute instantly and punctually what I now direct. In the last

* Parr angrily alludes to this in one of his letters to Dr. Charles Burney, whose father was a friend of Steevens.

The letters of Parr to Dr. Charles Burney contain much matter concerning the Bellenden.

page, "latissime" is put wrong; it should be after "possit." It is so bad, so very bad as it now stands, that no earthly consideration shall induce me to let it go. Therefore, add to the Errata, Pag. ult. pone "latissime" post "possit;" or rather, pro "quam latissime fieri possit," lege "*quam fieri possit, latissime*," *a comma at each*. Secondly, and lastly, I have said inaccurately that Bauer knew nothing of the order in which Bellenden published his works. He knew something, but not all—not enough. Now, I will not assert a false fact; for it is worse than false Latin, and therefore, if the reading sent from Banbury be inscribed, why then you must say, linea eadem lege "parum" pro "nihil," et "explorati" pro "exploratum."

I mean the passage to be, "uterque earum parum explorati habuit," instead of "nihil eorum uterque exploratum habuit." If it be not inserted, so far as concerns "eorum uterque," then alter the whole, and say, pro "nihil eorum uterque exploratum habuit," lege "*uterque eorum parum explorati habuit*." If only thirty or forty are bound, unbind them again, till you can have these additions made to the errata. At all events, in every—every copy not bound, make the alterations. I suppose the leaf can without injury be recommitted to the press; if not, it is my anxious wish, my earnest request, my peremptory command, that the last leaf of the Preface be re-printed totally. I am sorry, dear Sir, but it cannot be helped; and give me the satisfaction of hearing that you comply, and let it be no answer that some copies are dispersed, for all, all, all, that remain, shall be corrected. And so farewell.

Yours truly, S. PARR.

Now this is the last instance in which you are to oblige me, and do it willingly; and these alterations must, must, must be inserted. I wish "parum" before "explorati," and you change the whole, and if you have corrected anything about "eorum uterque," why you may say vel potius, pro

"nihil eorum uterque exploratum habuit," lege

"uterque eorum parum enplorati habuit."

Use your discretion.

This fidgetting about expressions, is trifling compared to many other letters. Any corrector of the

press may judge of poor Homer's toils * from this example; and if added to it, he could see the writing to be decyphered, he could not fail to thank his stars, that his labours had reached the last letter. The Preface is dated, cal. Maii 1787. The sale was not immediately brisk; Homer complains of it, but exults at the praise bestowed upon the Preface by scholars. In a letter, dated Windsor, Aug. 2, 1787:

Universally given to you here—all admire—Dr. Sumner will soon call upon you—immense reading—most elegant composition.—At Winchester Dr. W—— positively asserted it must be yours, because no one else was equal to such a composition —pleased with the honourable mention of himself. Has Maltby informed you of this, viz. the Bishop of London's brother, a very old man,† was so struck by your remarks on Middleton, that it brought to his recollection a most singular circumstance. He happened to be with Middleton just before his Life of Cicero came out; a gentleman came in, and, in the course of

* And indeed Parr himself seems to have been aware of the necessity of inculcating patience to him. "Homer (says he) your patience will now be so much exercised, that you will be fitted for married life; and if you have not your reward in this life by matrimony, you will, after bearing all the trials I put in your way, be qualified to contend with Job himself for half the share of his reward in another. And if you were to eat eggs dressed by my cook, and could prevent your eyes from swelling, your teeth from chattering, your heart from heaving, your head from shaking, your hands from brandishing, and your tongue from railing, threatening, cursing, lying, and swearing, you would thus be a match for Job in t' other half, and the Warwickshire proverb would thus be changed, from patient Job to more patient Homer.

"limatiores," instead of "ornatiores."

"callida,"—"calida," &c.

† The Rev. Mr. Lowth, a most learned and excellent man, Prebendary of Winchester.

conversation, asked Middleton if he had ever seen Bellendenus. He faultered, grew pale, and acknowledged he had. The reason Mr. Lowth did not know, till he had read the Preface. Of these Tracts Lowth was *totally* ignorant, though he had often heard of the De Tribus, &c. Was the Delphic oracle once in 100 times so happy in its solution of difficult questions?

I have not been able to wade so far through the correspondence, as to find the testimonia eruditorum, or clarorum virorum, to Parr himself. Doubtless, some incense was offered to him, from those he so warmly praised, and whose antagonists he so harshly blamed.

Of the sense he himself entertained of the effect of his work in a high quarter, one of the following letters is a ludicrous exhibition, the other an exhilarating. They are both addressed to the Rev. H. Homer:

DEAR SIR,

What will you say? or rather, what shall I say myself of myself? It is now ten o'clock at night, and I am smoaking a quiet pipe, after a most vehement, and, I think, a most splendid effort of composition—an effort it was indeed, a mighty and a glorious effort. For the object of it is to lift up Burke to the pinnacle where he ought to have been placed before, and to drag down Lord Chatham from that eminence to which the cowardice of his hearers, and the credulity of the public, had most weakly and most undeservedly exalted the impostor, and father of impostors! Read it, dear Harry, read it, I say, aloud; read it again and again; and when your tongue has turned its edge from me to the father of W. Pitt—when your ears tingle and ring with my sonorous periods—when your heart glows and beats with the fond and triumphant remembrance of Edmund Burke—then, dear Homer, you will forgive me, you will love me, you will congratulate me, and readily will you take upon yourself the trouble of printing, what in writing has cost me so much greater, though not longer trouble. Old boy, I tell you that no part of the Preface is better conceived, or better written;

none will be read more eagerly, or felt by those whom you wish to feel it, more severely. Old boy, old boy, it 's a stinger! and now to other business. The brackets at adversariorum are right. Licet must have no conjunctive mark; it is a verb. Illi ipsi is right: and so right, that ipsi illi would be wrong; and you know I have corrected two passages, which had escaped my eye. Mind, mind once more, old boy! in prose ipsi must always follow illi. As to tanquam, I prefer the N to the M; the orthography is indifferent, and so even the correct and morose Gesner acknowledges. This long addition will retard us a little; but I must see it once, and only once more. I am sorry for it, but I cannot help it, and also I cannot waste such good stuff. I wish you to let Payne know that I am sorry at his undertaking the Translation; and that I am not surprised at the conduct of the translator, whose character I have known too long and too well. Let the advertisement come out on the 12th of November at farthest, and say nothing, nothing, nothing about auctior atque emendatior. There is no difference about haud or non before negaverint; but remember, remember, remember, not merely the approaching 5th of November, but my earnest request, my explicit direction, my positive command to state fully, plainly, fairly—to state without apology, hesitation, without disgust, any and every, the greatest and least difficulty, as to spelling, punctuation, or language. This is written by a Foxite, from a Foxite, to a Foxite; and kiss it and obey it. Where is Steevens? &c.

The foregoing letter was written on adding the whole of the matter, as it now is, in the second edition, of the Preface, page xi. beginning with "illud etiam" down to "alere atque informare," page xviii. The following letter was written under the fancies, which accompany the idea, "that he was about to pursue the triumph and partake the gale:"

DEAR HOMER,

As the contents of this letter are of the first importance, I

employ a friend to write for me. The Preface will certainly make a great noise; it will give the greatest possible offence; and would subject the author, if known, to the most formidable dangers, perhaps from a prosecution in the Courts of Law, but certainly from implacable vengeance in the Court of St. James. I found my mind so thoroughly warmed, that I neither gave, nor was capable of giving, the least quarter to those whom you and I consider as the enemies of their country. But they are men, firmly seated in power; they have keen eyes, and their hands are both long and strong. I would assume the sophistry of Pitt, and the impudence of Dundas, and perhaps I should guard against the awkwardness of P..... in telling a lie—for no human consideration will induce me to acknowledge myself the author. It is a secret scarcely to be trusted to the Duke of Portland himself; for I should always ascribe the merit of it, if merit there be, to some friend; hinting, or perhaps acknowledging, that I had some share. When you see it, you will also see the necessity, the urgent and supreme necessity, of this caution. For, let them say what they will, I am not a monopolizer of Greek and Latin; and besides, my friend, if politics were a part, who would spare my Latinity? Even the King's-men * who applaud the one, would yet cavil at the other; but of criticism I am not much afraid—the law does scare me. Now for the application. I have yielded to you, and after yielding I heartily concur with you in some points, and in your turn you must implicitly and faithfully make these concessions. 1. The printer's name shall on no account whatever be mentioned. The printer himself shall on no account whatsoever be informed who wrote the Preface. I say, on no account. I say again, on no account whatsoever. If you say any thing, say only this: that it was written by a friend of yours; and add, with a bold face and a firm tone, that your coadjutor in the mere edition is not the writer of the Preface. It shall be dated from Cambridge, first, to avert suspicion, and, secondly, to shew the public that all Cambridge men are not Pittites. No man will suspect Henry Homer of writing. I will not even

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* Fellows of King's College.

have the name of any particular London bookseller affixed, for more curiosity will be excited if we only say as follows: This day are published, dedicated to Lord North, Mr. Burke, and Mr. Fox, Libri tres rarissimi a Gulielmo Bellendeno, olim scripti quorum tituli sunt, &c. Veneunt Londini, veneunt, with the date of the year. On these matters you must let me judge. Probably I can get a reviewer for the Critical, and I will myself take care of the Monthly. Maty must be left to himself; and the English Review, conducted as it is by Scotchmen, will not abuse the re-publication of a book written by a Scotch scholar. Harry Homer! I wish you were now in my library. Thurlow, Richmond, Pitt, Wilkes, and the Junto, and the picture-mongers, and picture-buyers, and picture-drawers, are most unmercifully scourged. They have it, my boy, with so much classical allusion, that somebody at Windsor must send for our sleek Bishop of Worcester to construe and explain it for them; and then the good Bishop will be puzzled, and construe wrong..... If your Majesty pleases, I will make it intelligible by a Commentary, says the Bishop, such as I wrote on Horace, or my brother Kidgell on the Essay on Man. What, what, what! do Bishops read that book? Yes, Sir, and like it, as much as they do my Commentaries.

From two of the Lumina I find no thanks for the Dedication. The Right Honourable Edmund Burke writes thus to the Rev. Dr. Parr:

DEAR SIR,

I hope that my delay in making a proper acknowledgment for your instructive, and what is rarely joined to instructive, your very flattering present, does not make me appear insensible to its value, or ungrateful for the high honour I have received in your associating me with persons entitled, by their own splendid qualities, to a distinction which I owe entirely to your indulgence and partiality. That partiality will, however, pass with most people as a presumption that I am not wholly without some degree of that sort of merit which is calculated to affect a liberal and benevolent mind; and which, therefore, can never be considered as in the lowest class, in any just esti-

mate of things. Excuse this delay, on the same good-natured principles that made you think it worth your while to mention me in such good company. I had rather incur some blame, even from you, than attempt to excuse myself on account of occupations which are never enough, either in quantity or in importance, to serve for an apology for any omissions with regard to the respect and gratitude I owe to my friends.

Indeed, Sir, it gives me no small pride and pleasure to find my name perpetuated in the works of a man of the most extensive and critical erudition, and who would have held that rank when there were more who distinguished themselves in that line than we enjoy at present in any part of Europe. This poor testimony is not wholly without its weight; because, being in truth myself a very incompetent judge, I do no more than echo the public voice, and that is of greater consequence than any individual suffrage, though from a more enlightened person. I am earnest in my wishes that this sort of erudition may live and flourish; for, let persons of limited conception think what they will of it, it has ever been, and ever must be, the first principle of a taste, not only in the arts, but in life and in morals. If we have any priority over our neighbours, it is in no small measure owing to the early care we take with respect to a Classical education, which cannot be supplied by the cultivation of any other branch of learning, and which makes some amends for many shocking defects in our system of training our youth. It diffuses its influence over the society at large; it is enjoyed where it is not directly bestowed; and those feel its operations who do not know to what they owe the advantages they possess.

You are very generous in your condolence with me on the little estimation in which it is my fortune to be held. I am, however, myself not in the smallest degree affected with that circumstance. Whatever attention either is, or has at any time been paid to my opinions in the exercise of my public duty, is certainly more than I can lay any claim to; and I ought therefore, to receive any measure of it, however small, as I do receive it, very thankfully. From a confidence in my own good intentions, I might wish my credit to be greater; as I might by that means become of more use to the part of af-

airs, which I touch. But in this respect, perhaps, I am mistaken. The effect might have been quite different. If I had enjoyed a reputation of greater splendour I might have been more intent on what might nourish that reputation, than on those ends, for which alone a reputation ought to be cultivated; and with greater fame I might have done less, than even the little I have been able to perform. On the whole, I ought to be well satisfied, and I think I am, as to the matter of fact; for these three last years I cannot say that my attempts have not been as favourably received as they have been at any period of my life; I mean, that they have been thus received, since the adversaries of the system I have been engaged in have totally prevailed. It ought to be, if not to myself, to every body else, a matter of satisfaction that the time in which I was the most obscured, was that in which our friends have shone out with the greatest lustre, and had attained the highest pitch of their credit and prosperity. If at such times I am a little run down, exertions of more consequence, and more wisely directed to their end, are prevalent. The season for weaker talents is, when there is little to be done.

May we flatter ourselves that the same indulgence which induced you to see us in town, will persuade you, if anything should bring you towards Beconsfield, to let us have the same pleasure in the country. I have the honour to be, with the most perfect respect and regard, dear Sir, your most faithful and obliged humble servant, EDM. BURKE.

Gerard-street, June 9, 1787.

From Mr. R. Archdale to Dr. Parr, dated

Nov. 30th, 1787.

Halhed and I are reading the Preface to Bellendenus; therefore, my dear Sam, tell me as soon as possible, under cover to Sir G. Collier, Bulstrode-street, what we may understand by the allusion (page 37) to the Greek of Στεφανον Graii vertere vocantes, &c. 'tis said to mean Lager, but how and why? We wish to know too from whence you take the motto to Mr. Fox's portrait? and shall not be unthankful, if you will construe

it for us. Pray do this, for the peace of mind of us both, and do it soon. As to the Preface, we only beg leave to offer the words of Johnson on another occasion: "Criticism would be impossible, and praise useless," and tell us too—does the "Scotus" mean Dundas, or Major Scott, or either, or neither, or both, for to each is it by some people given. Adieu! Halhed hopes and desires to see you whenever you visit London, and is sorry he was absent when you were here last. As to myself, I am just arrived from, and just returning to Ireland, where Lord Charlemont lent me your book, and where, as every where, I shall be yours,

R. Archdale.

Of the edition of Bellendenus the Bishop of Cloyne's notice is so ample, that I shall not quote the opinions of other Reviewers. The original work is an honour to the Country from which it proceeded—that Country, which from the days of Buchanan to those of Dr. James Gregory, has never failed in fine writers or good scholars; and which may boast, since the establishment of the parochial schools, of a more intelligent population than any other on the face of the earth. The preface I consider as a sequel to the notes, added to the suppressed edition of Rapin on Whigs and Tories. The defeat of the Coalition had destroyed Parr's hopes of preferment—his connection with Mr. Windham at Norwich pointed his feelings to certain party men—he became enamoured of the leaders of Opposition, one of whose coadjutors had been his pupil; and the editing of Bellendenus afforded him the pretence, and gave him the power, of attaching himself to the Coalition and their allies. It gave him also an opportunity of displaying his powers in Latin

composition, and his command of that language,* and the almost infinite extent of his matchless learning, as well as his wish of exposing the plagiarisms of Dr. Conyers Middleton. It had long been suspected that Middleton borrowed largely, from some unknown source, materials for his life of Cicero, which has been in some measure proved by the republication of Bellendenus, and is remarkably confirmed by Mr. Lowth's anecdote. This is not all. In Parr's set of the Miscellaneous Works of Middleton, there are two notices on the blank leaves of the fourth and fifth volumes, which I shall insert.

When Dr. Middleton published his book De Medicorum Romæ degentium conditione ignobili, &c. it was answered by Dr. Leatherland, and also by Dr. Ward, Professor of Gresham College, who is said to have assisted Dr. Mead in writing Latin.

Towards the close of the eighteenth century, a manuscript of Middleton was for the first time published, in 4to, by Dr. Heberden, and I have it. Now, as in the Life of Cicero Middleton was charged with plagiarism from Bellenden, and his Letter from Rome brought upon him the same charge, but with less justice, from a writer whom I believe to be Otto; so his work on Roman Physicians was accused of plagiarism, as I find from the following passage:

Dr. John Christian Wolff is preparing for the press an Answer to Dr. Middleton's Dissertation de Medicorum Romæ degentium conditione ignobili atque servili. Dr. Wolff thinks his adversary much obliged to a little book printed at Leyden in 1671, and reprinted in 1681, though he has not once quoted it.

* "There are in the Preface almost all the phraseological beauties I knew in Latin, and in particular you will find the subjunctive used properly, and with great wit, and yet I have endeavoured to shun all appearance of affected phraseology." This is his own observation to one of his friends.

It is entituled, "Medicus Romanus servus sexaginta solidis estimatus." See "The present State of the Republic of Letters," for February 1728, vol. i.

I never saw the work of Wolff. S. PARR.

I had often heard, when a young man, from scholars, that much of the matter contained in Dr. Middleton's famous Letter from Rome was borrowed, without acknowledgment, from some preceding writer. (He then details the authority which fixes upon Otto as the Author.) In June 1813 I bought the book at Dr. Gosset's sale. It was published at Utrecht 1731, and consists of three parts; the first of which, De Diis vialibus, appeared at Halle 1714, and consists of 14 chapters. In the 14th chapter, De Fatis Deorum vialium, it takes up the very subject upon which Middleton wrote..... If Middleton ever saw this book, it must have been of great service to him. See p. 24 of Middleton, and 312 of Otto, who also quotes Mabillon.

In regard to the politics of the Preface, the awful verdict of posterity alone can determine the reasonableness and truth: and that verdict will decide and proclaim whether the steps that led to the rejection of the India Bill by the House of Lords; and the influence that seated a stripling on the Treasury Bench, and bravely maintained him there, in defiance of the votes of the House of Commons of England, were not more deserving of parliamentary impeachment than classical invective. But of its policy there can be no doubt. None but such a character as Parr's, could have risen from beneath the ruins, which he had drawn down upon himself by his injudicious violence. The Coalition was a hateful measure to the people of England, who only judge of events from their success, and the apparent honesty and sincerity of the actors, whose optics are not fine enough to discover possible and remote uti-

lities, and to whom the intrigues of courts and the glozes of faction are as little intelligible as any other deviations from the usual course of natural actions, and the common maxims of common sense. On this occasion they adhered to their governors, and even punished their representatives. The Coalition, indeed, of the Oppositionists to the American War with Lord North, was unnatural in all its aspects. The Whig and the Tory could never amalgamate; the principles of toleration and reform, always professed by Mr. Fox, could never be associated with the system of passive obedience, of non-resistance, and that ecclesiastical zeal which induced Lord North to go down to the House, blind and led like Samson to the feast, to rivet the chains of a profane test.* And lo! how few were the years about to elapse, 'ere the third of the luminaries, urged on by his own pressing wants, or maddened by the French Revolution, dissolved the closest friendship of his whole political life with insulting arrogance, and severed himself from the man whom he had professed so long to love above all others, on a discussion and difference about speculative opinions.

Yet these were the three luminaries, the bright gods of Parr's political day, at whose shrine he prostrated and sacrificed himself!

Eloquent, unrivalled in Latin composition, forcible in delineation of character, more than any other composition of the age, and exuberant in learning,

* The reasonableness of a *test* is not hard to be proved; but perhaps it must be allowed, that the *proper test* has not been chosen.—JOHNSON'S SWIFT.

is the Preface to Bellendenus; and so nicely worked is the picture, so well blended are the colours, and so richly adorned with beautiful wreaths of foliage, and flowers of learned quotation, that this production of his pen will perhaps be handed down to posterity. But the delicate pencilling and rich colouring of praise on one side, are merely a set off against the dark and rough strokes and shades of the other. Compare the Demi-god Fox, and the Catiline Pitt—even Demosthenes spake not of Philip of Macedon more harshly: and perhaps in the delineation of the character of ὁ δεῖνα, the verdict of posterity will be, that in the Preface of Bellendenus the Oracle of Eloquence Παῤῥίζει.

The attack on Pitt contains one curiosity. Amid the fine writing and learned quoting, some iambics from the pen of Parr, interweaving the sentiments of Shakspeare with an Epigram of Epicharmus,* to delineate the character of Pitt, which if they were not the ground, might be supposed to give the hint, for the establishment of the Porson prize in the University of Cambridge.

Ψυκρὸν κέαρ τοῦ παιδίου θερμοῖς ἔπι
Ὑδαρὲς τέ πως καὶ λεπτὸν αἷμ' ἀεὶ τρέφον
Νήφειν τ' ἀπιστεῖν τ' ἄρθρα τοῦ βίου λέγει,
Ἀγέλαστον, ἄφιλον κα' προσήγορον τέρας.

It may be asked, cui bono was all this written? What cause of provocation had Parr? I know of none, except the general disappointment of his party, and the unmannerly oaths of Thurlow. For,

* Bentl. ad Mill. p. 17.

in the Notes to Rapin, he speaks with hope of Pitt, and does not upbraid him. But, if the censures were just, were they generous and wise? What business had he to call names in Greek, and to load with insult those whom he hated *only* politically? This was the observation of Thurlow.

Statesmen, Parr observed on another occasion, have long arms: and it may be presumed they have as long memories as other men, and that injustice, or even injury, sinks as deep into their hearts as into those of other men, when the attack is unprovoked. But when it degenerates into insult, as it did in the instances of the Duke of Richmond and Lord Thurlow, it can never be forgiven. A public man flies to revenge, as his only resource; and when the sword of justice is not within his reach, places the aggressor under the ban of his secret hatred, and bequeaths even to his successor his own spirit of vengeance and retaliation. Parr himself probably intended, in unsheathing the sword against the Pittites, to throw away the scabbard. He entered into the centre of the battalion of the Foxites, to stand or fall with his party; and if they gained the victory, to share the spoil. His long life of consistency was *most* honourable to him. He *did* adhere to his party, and suffered in their defeat. During the perilous times of the French Revolution, he was exposed to the insults and malignity of the ruling faction in his own county; and, though he stood firm and unmoved, his domestic peace was more than once disturbed. *Yet* is it not certain, though his party had gained the

victory, that he would have been permitted to partake the spoil. For Mr. Fox had not always the power of disposing of preferment, even when minister. Had the Coalition succeeded, *it is only a surmise* that he might have been Canon Residentiary of St. Paul's. On the appointment of the Regency, *it was said* he was to be promoted to the See of Bristol. But, when his friends were actually in administration, it was insinuated that Lord Grenville declined promising a Bishopric, on the ground of Parr's unpopularity in his own profession. If it were so, he had sacrificed himself for nothing; wasting his powers in praising those who could not serve him, embarking those great talents in the service of a party or a faction, which were intended for the benefit of his country and his race—and, above all, departing from the great rules of his religion, "not to speak evil, nor to give offence to the least of his brethren." Let his example be a beacon and a warning to the scholar, how he employs his talents and his learning in *writing* for a party! Every man perhaps ought to belong to some party in a free State; but whatsoever freedom of opinion he may claim for himself, he ought not to monopolize, nor deny it to another. He may be an antagonist without bitterness, and stand up for his own principles without outraging those of others. Thus, while I blame Parr for throwing away his time and talents on a splendid declamation, I would not have it forgotten that his consistency maintained him in high station in the world, and the best credit among his friends. Even those who did not think

with him in politics, when the perilous times were past, courted him. His hopes of high preferment were blasted by his own petulance; not by the mildew of Bishop Hurd, nor the thunder and lightning of Chancellor Thurlow. *His long vernacular Sermons* would soon have been listened to with delight from the mitred chair, had he been quiet about political *men*, and not assailed them personally and insultingly.

Parr was attacked in a poem called the Parriad, and in a Latin poem, called, "Carmen Antamœbœum," and in a work styled, "An Examination of the Politics of the Preface of Bellendenus;" and of the paragraph venders of the day, many spat their venom with the usual insolence, and more than common spitefulness of hirelings. Of the Parriad, by William Chapman, A. M. Bew, 1788, the Monthly Reviewers say, "there is greater deficiency in the decency, than in the poetry." Of the "Carmen Antamœbæum, in olentem Bellendeni Editorem," Bell, 1788, the same Reviewers say, "It is called Carmen, though it has lines which defy scansion. The critical rod is not the only one from which this writer ought to receive his reward."

Homer's letters give an account of these squibs, and Parr himself also solves the mystery of the publication of the "Examination," in a letter to Dr. Maltby, assigning the conception of it to Dr. Cooper of Yarmouth, and the execution to David Urquhart, a Clergyman in Norfolk. Parr's Preface to Bellendenus was translated into English without his knowledge, and much to his injury, as he ima-

gined, soon after its appearance. Mr. Homer's letters will expose the supposed translator, and Parr's feelings of resentment, at this encroachment on his rights.

Mr. W. Beloe was the translator, I believe, and a particular mark has been set upon him by his account of his old master, in a work deliberately composed and printed during his life, though not published till after his death, "The Sexagenarian." Beloe was scholar to Parr at Stanmore, and removed from thence by a memorial of the upper boys. In chapter X. of the Sexagenarian, he has recorded the history of his feelings, "after he was placed under the care of a great dragon of learning," but has given no clue to the causes of his unhappiness, save in the suspicion he fell under, of one petty act of guilt, from the accusation of which he could not clear himself. But Mr. Beloe, as if resolved to leave no doubt of his early character, has himself given an account of his conduct, when first entered at Ben'et College, Cambridge. He was sent from Stanmore, not by the unkindness of the master, but by the hatred of the boys. It was not the cruelty of his *Orbilius*, but the contempt of his companions, that removed him to College. When "a raw freshman," he inscribed an epigram in one of the Chapel Prayer Books, against two young men of much higher pretensions than himself, so apposite, and severe, as unavoidably to provoke their indignation and resentment. "I was avoided as a dangerous miscreant," says Beloe himself, Sexagenarian, i. p. 34: and no wonder was it, that the boy and the youth was so avoided, who has confessed he

wrote an Amœbæan eclogue to expose the eccentricities of an amiable man, (did he only write one?*) and was so well versed in writing Satanic letters. P. 36.

The Sexagenarian was criticised in the Monthly Review for February 1818, by a gentleman and a scholar, by one who thinks only the truth, and has the courage to speak it.

This criticism triumphantly vindicates Dr. Parr, whose mind was sorely hurt by Beloe's attack. But he was not so angry on his own account, as of his friends, who had been traduced by the posthumous slanderer. On Mr. Monro's account he desired Mr. Maurice to make known to common friends the falsehood of the assertions regarding that gentleman.

Inclosed (says Maurice, March 10, 1818) is Sir William Scott's answer, when I sent him that portion of your letter respecting Beloe's book, which you wished me to make known to mutual friends, in vindication, I think, of your conduct towards Tom Monro.

Sir William Scott's answer to the Rev. Thomas Maurice, British Museum.

SIR,

I return you Dr. Parr's letter, which is written with a proper indignation against the ungrateful author of that publication. It is impossible that such a publication could injure Dr. Parr in any man's estimation. If Mr. N.... assured you that I was convinced he had nothing to do with it, he rather mistakes the state of my mind upon that matter.

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* See the Carmen Antamœbæum against the author of Bellendenus.

Thomas Maurice was received at Stanmore by Parr soon after his establishment there; and of Parr, Mr. William Legge, and some of the leaders of the school, he has given a most interesting account, beginning at page 60 of the Memoirs of the Author of Indian Antiquities. He there not only makes us acquainted with the boys and their habits, but has done ample justice to the master, who almost inspired his scholars with a love of learning.

'It was indeed impossible, (says he,) while we were construing the choruses, and often very sublime speeches, of the Ἄγγελος, or Messenger, in the Greek Tragedians, for the most stupid boy not to be deeply affected with the mode in which Dr. Parr—for so I shall venture to call my revered friend, as a title more dignified, and more familiar to me, though he did not take that degree till several years afterwards—with the mode, I say, in which he treated the subject of our instruction. For, in our progress through the interesting drama, to the antient Greek and Roman authorities, brought in illustration of the author, were added similar passages, generally *imitations*, to be found in modern writers, principally English; as, for instance, in respect to the tragedy just mentioned, the Œdipus Tyrannus, all the pathetic ejaculations of Milton, relative to his blindness, were adduced to increase the interest, from Paradise Lost and Samson Agonistes. This was done in the most impressive manner, by an instructor who, in addition to his profound knowledge of Greek lore, accurately knew, and strenuously exerted, all the powers of the English language, to enforce them on his pupils. During his eloquent recitations, I have known youths of feeling affected by them even to tears; and, I believe, none who heard them ever after forgot them.

It is not necessary to follow the Memoirs of the Author of Indian Antiquities through his high Cambrian origin, or his more pressing domestic ca-

lamities; nor to detail the long list of magnificent patrons of his oriental labours. Suffice it to say, that these Memoirs, like those of the Sexagenarian, are a sort of literary history of the period. They record abundance of names, they copy abundance of letters, they tell agreeable stories, but with these remarkable differences:—Maurice is full of Stanmore, of gratitude to his master, of lively interest for many of his schoolfellows; but, unlike him, the traducer of no one. Like the Sexagenarian, he loves high Church politics; but does not attempt to traduce low Church politicians, as he did. Like him indeed, he courts and flatters patrons and ministers; but, unlike the other, he does not vilify benefactors. I did not read the Memoirs of the Author of Indian Antiquities till long after I had composed the account of Parr at Stanmore; and I now beg leave to direct the attention of the reader to the account of Stanmore, which Mr. Roderick gave me, when he was in his 83d year, after the lapse of near 50 years, to shew how accurately it agrees with the younger, and more gaudy account by Maurice. Mr. Lytton, in one of his letters, which I have copied, bore testimony to Joseph Gerald's personification of Zanga.

> The incomparable scholar, Gerald, (says Maurice,) went eloquently through a part of eight or nine hundred lines, without a pause or a blunder (Œdipus). Would to God he had acted his part with equal correctness in the great drama of life!

Maurice brings forward particularly Walter Pollard, one of his schoolfellows at Stanmore, whom I have noticed, and appends some very foolish observa-

tions on American politics, and on certain incidents of his life. But we owe to this circumstance the introduction of some valuable correspondence of Sir William Jones. Of Stanmore I shall conclude the account, by recommending to the learned reader the close of the first part of the Memoirs of A. I. A. from p. 104; and that reader cannot fail to be impressed with the striking and involuntary testimony that is there borne to Parr's merits as an instructor. To the teacher, who led his pupils on gradually, from poetry and oratory and history to philosophy—who illustrated the leading facts by his memory, and by a comparison of the respective merits of the different schools, and who, by an able discrimination displayed them in opposition with the more enlightened theories of the moderns.—To such a teacher, who was capable from the rich stores of his mind, to paint all the beauties of style and all the force of intellect manifested in these compositions, it is no wonder, should be applied the most expressive homage, that language could pay. The men he produced are evidences of the precious advantage of his instruction; and there can be no doubt that to Sumner and to him, but especially to him, the higher branches of scholastic instruction owe much of their present improvement—for, his instructions were no mummeries—learning by him was inexorably enforced; and diligence with him was an indispensable obligation. He compelled the boy to learn, who could learn, without enticing or tricking him into the service of letters; and when he was of age to reflect, he made it his interest to reflect, and he

taught him to reflect. He attended diligently to the mental bias of every boy; and no one capable of instruction ever departed from him without receiving it. Like Busby, he practised severity; and like him, I have no doubt he would have had at one time sixteen Bishops on the bench, had he continued to old age seated in the chair of one of our great public schools. In these, and in all other respects, Maurice has done justice to Parr's talents and merits as a preceptor, and I shall print some letters, as they do honour to his own character, in displaying to the last, his gratitude and attachment to that master, who was, and continued to be, his benefactor through life.*

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* See Appendix.

CHAP. IV.

Bampton Lectures.

While Parr resided at Norwich, Professor White of Oxford had engaged him in his service, and employed his leisure in revising the Bampton Lectures, about to be preached before the University in 1784.

It becomes my duty, therefore, to consider the nature of his literary connection with the Professor, and to trace the extent of his contributions to the works of so celebrated an author.

I have no exact information of the beginning of Parr's acquaintance with White—perhaps it began by the introduction of Mr. Walters, his assistant in Norwich School; for the following letter, which shews a recent acquaintance, mentions the name of Mr. Walters, as implicated in some communication interesting to both parties.

From the Rev. Joseph White to the Rev. Samuel Parr.

REV. SIR, *Oxford, Feb.* 1781.

I am ashamed to acknowledge that I had the honour of receiving from you, about three months since, a very polite letter, with the inclosed biblical queries, &c. &c. I thoughtlessly laid aside your letters amongst some other papers, and afterwards forgot it, till I was reminded of it by Mr. Walters.

Thus early did they correspond on literary subjects. In the next year, White continued to ask

literary favours, for he had received them before, according to the avowal made in the following letter:

WORTHY SIR, *Oxford, Nov. 25th*, 1782.

My edition of Abdollatiph's History of Egypt, which you *have* kindly encouraged by your subscription, and which is now nearly out of the press, I intend to dedicate to my friend and patron, Dr. John Moore, Bishop of Bangor. May I beg the obliging assistance of your pen on this occasion, by throwing into a compact inscription the following character of the Bishop: *He has long honoured me with his benevolence and friendship as an individual, and with his generous protection as an author. He has been always admired for the conscientious discharge of his Episcopal function; and amiable in the performance of the private duties of his family.* A dedication is always the most conspicuous part of a book, and therefore I wish to trust to the known elegance of your Latin style, for satisfying the public expectation in this particular, rather than perhaps disappoint it by what I might myself have written. Your kindness on *a former occasion* has caused you this trouble, from, worthy Sir, your most obliged and faithful humble servant,

JOSEPH WHITE.

On the same subject he addresses the following letter to Parr:

WORTHY SIR, *Oxford, March* 13, 1783.

I had just received your very friendly and judicious letters, when I was suddenly called to London to transact some literary business of importance. Amidst the hurry that unavoidably attends the first day after my return to this place, and the preparation I am obliged to make for a large class of Hebrew pupils, I cannot forbear (in a few hasty lines) to thank you for the pains you have bestowed on my dedication and prefaces; and to express my admiration of the critical skill you have bestowed in revising them. The new manner you have given to the dedication is masterly, and is calculated to satisfy the ear and the mind much better than in its former shape. As you have authorised me to expect that in the course of your future leisure, you will honour with a perusal the work you have patronized by your learned assistance, I am inclined to hope that

I may prevail with you in requesting some additional communications from your pen, and that you will add to its value by a cursory revisal, from time to time, of the whole manuscript. That part of the book for which I am responsible will extend but to a few printed sheets; and, whether you favour me with substituting your elegant Latin for the phrases you dislike, or by underlining them with some cautionary mark, I shall receive every specimen of your criticism with the respect and gratitude it must deserve. I have great pleasure in expecting your promised visit at Oxford, which I shall add to the number of obligations you have conferred upon me. The occasion of your journey gives me equal satisfaction; yet I cannot forbear to regret that the limited and narrow patronage of these times has not rendered it more adequate to acknowledged worth and abilities. I remain, learned Sir, your most obliged and obedient servant, J. White.

The next correspondence with Dr. White, opens the whole scheme of the Bampton Lectures. On one set of papers is written, "An original draft for the Bampton Lectures, sent to Dr. Parr for his correction at Norwich;" in which the scheme itself is unfolded at large; and but for the bulk of the documents, I should have recommended their publication in these works. They will perhaps be laid before the public hereafter; and curious to the eyes of posterity must be the first germination of such a work as *White's* Bampton Lecture. As the production grew, we shall see how it was trained by Badcock, and with what vigorous shoots it flourished under the fostering and grafting hand of Parr.

Wadham College, Dec. 1st, 1783.

Mr. White presents his most respectful compliments to Dr. Parr, and requests the favour of two or three lines from him, on the subject of a proper introduction to the characters of

Christ and Mahomet. The materials are all prepared, and ready to be wrought into shape. If Dr. Parr would condescend to suggest to Mr. White how he might best open and conduct the subject, he would esteem it as a very particular favour. Mr. W. rests assured that he shall have the honour of a line from Dr. Parr upon this business, as soon as it suits his convenience. In great haste.

As the business went on, Professor White expresses encreased earnestness for Parr's assistance.

LEARNED AND WORTHY SIR, *Feb. 24th*, 1784.

I thank you most heartily for your admirable improvements of the three first sheets of Lecture I. which I have lately received. The enclosed is a part of Lecture III. Another part I have sent by this evening's post, addressed to Mr. Fraser, at the Secretary of State's Office, and I have requested the favour of him to forward it to you immediately. Both these Lectures form the whole view of the difficulties Christianity had to struggle with at its first appearance, with respect to Jews and Gentiles. The remainder of the Sermon (which is no inconsiderable part) will be sent to you as soon as possible. The post is this moment going out, and I have only time to mention two circumstances. One is, that this Sermon is to be preached on the third Sunday of next month. The other, that, as I believe I shall be in London the whole of next week, I particularly wish that you would be so good as to send all the corrected sheets addressed to me at Mr. Ellis's. If I happen not to go to London, Mr. Ellis has franks enough to convey the papers to Oxford; but I believe I shall be in London. I remain, worthy Sir, with the sincerest gratitude, your most obliged servant, J. WHITE.

Your corrections were not admitted in the last part of the third sheet I sent you, because I wrote those papers three months ago.

WORTHY AND LEARNED SIR, *Feb. 26*, 1784.

I hope you have before this time received the packets from

me, containing the whole view of the Jewish and Gentile world at the time of Christ's appearance. This view is as accurate as I could make it, and I flatter myself I have taken in what is essential to the argument. When it has received your improvements, I think it will be heard with attention at St. Mary's. It happens fortunately that the eight Lectures are preached at three different periods; three this Term (on the 7th, 14th, and 21st of March), three in Easter Term, two in October. This exactly suits my three divisions. The introductory Lecture, the History of Mahometism, and the History of Christianity, form the first part. The Characters of Mahomet and Christ, the Doctrines of the Koran and the Gospel, the Claims of External Evidence urged by Mahomet and Christ, form the second part. And the different influence of the two Religions on the welfare of the Individual and of Nations, is the subject of the two last Sermons.

The conclusion of Lecture III. which will make about 20 pages more, I shall forward to you as soon as I can prepare it. I wish much to make this an interesting Sermon; and as it is the last Discourse I am to preach this Term, I must earnestly entreat you to kindle again that fire which burns so admirably in Lecture I. Apropos—I think one of the additions you sent me (viz. that which begins with, "Hitherto, indeed, infidelity has not been able to achieve anything," and down to, "There is a Providence," contains as much masterly eloquence as can be found in the same compass of sentences in any work in the English language. The three sheets I sent you last, had been written out by me two months before, and I had not leisure to copy them, otherwise the passage, "amidst the claimants of truth," &c. would have appeared according to your excellent correction. I forgot to mention this circumstance to you. The Latin Dedication to Abdollatiph was kindly accepted by the Archbishop, and it is to be prefixed to that work when it appears. I purpose, likewise, to dedicate these Sermons to his Grace, and have already drawn up something that I am tolerably satisfied with, "*On the propriety of attempting to further the progress of Christianity amongst our Mahometan Subjects in India.*"

I remain, worthy Sir, with the sincerest respect and gratitude, yours wholly, J. W.

Oxford, May 13th, 1784.

MY MOST LEARNED AND WORTHY FRIEND,

The fame of the Bampton Lectures increases daily; they give equal satisfaction to the beaux and the belles and the doctors. The church is crowded in the most extraordinary manner.*

Stinton (to whom I communicated them in confidence as yours) is wonderfully struck with the propriety, the strength, and the elegance of your observations on the character of Christ.

I sent you this morning by the coach the first Christian part of Lecture VI.; the enclosed is the remainder of that Lecture. I earnestly request the favour of you to give a little relievo to the general diction; it is too much in basso: and if you would be so good as to throw in a brilliant passage or two, particularly a few sentences at the end, it would be esteemed a very great obligation. This is the concluding Lecture of the Term. Please to send the corrected copy, not to Mr. Ellis, but immediately to myself, at Oxford; or to Mr. Stinton, who will give me your letter unopened. He knows your hand-writing, and esteems you very highly for the essential services you have done me on the present very important occasion. I remain, worthy Sir, with the deepest sense of gratitude, and with the most profound respect, your most obliged servant, J. WHITE.

N.B. Lecture VI. is to be read next Sunday se'nnight.

P.S. The Porter has this moment brought me your corrections of the first part of Lecture V. I have not time, before the post goes off, to read your letter with attention. Whatever your commands may be, I will obey them; and, if an answer be requisite, I will send it to-morrow.

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* Mr. John Walters, (afterwards Tutor of Jesus College,) brother of Daniel Walters, Dr. Parr's Assistant at Norwich, writes thus to Dr. Parr:

REV. AND DEAR SIR, *Oxford, May 1st*, 1784.

..... The Professor is preaching the Bampton Lectures with a splendour and success before unheard of in Oxford; for great part of which he expresses his obligations to your assistance. [*Yes! from this quarter he knew that there would be a direct communication of what he said to Dr. Parr.* ED.]

June 2d, 1784.

MY MOST WORTHY AND LEARNED FRIEND,

I now send you the continuation of the Lecture upon the effects of the two Religions upon the character of the Individual. It is (as I have already mentioned to you) rude and imperfect. I have in this Discourse ventured upon a species of writing wherein *I am wholly a stranger*, but with which you are *most perfectly* familiar. I must therefore *put* myself entirely under your guidance and protection. The illustrations of the reasoning with regard to Mahometism, I think I can make out very well. I forgot to mention to you in my last (containing the four first pages of this Discourse), that I meant to allude in one part to the discovery of the Magnet and the invention of Printing. I fear I did not clearly explain myself; I humbly beg the favour of you to make my meaning more intelligible.

As this Lecture completes the number prescribed by the Founder, I wish to terminate my career with credit; any improvements, therefore, of the papers I take the liberty of sending you, will be in the highest degree acceptable to me. *The particular illustrations* of the two points of the Lecture, and the conclusion of all, I reserve to myself — not having yet finished them. The inclosed papers I humbly take the liberty of requesting you to transmit to Mr. Ellis and Mr. Stinton, directed to me. I am, my most worthy and most learned Friend, yours respectfully and gratefully, J. W.

WORTHY AND LEARNED SIR, *London, Aug. 6th*, 1784.

Having been called up to town for a day or two on particular business, I have taken the opportunity of sending you, by the Norwich coach of this evening, (from the Swan with two Necks,) copies of my third, fourth, and 5th Lectures. If they should miscarry, I beg the favour of you to inform me of it by a line directed to me at Oxford, whither I must go to-morrow, and where I must stay the remainder of the summer. It is the heaviest misfortune of my life, that I cannot accept your kind invitation to Norwich, but the thing is impossible; a thousand

pleasures and advantages would have arisen to me from so seasonable an interview. Your kind offer of sending me some remarks on Bayle, and the book de Tribus Impostoribus, I accept with the sincerest gratitude; they will be very valuable additions to the book I am publishing. I have the pleasure of informing you, that your very friendly zeal in correcting so admirably my rude sketch, is likely to gain the end you proposed, the procurement of some comfortable preferment from his Grace of Canterbury. He tells me he hears from all parts great accounts of the masterly elegance of the Lectures. THAT ELEGANCE IS WHOLLY YOURS. The third Lecture will not be put up to press till *Monday se'nnight* or Tuesday se'nnight. Any corrections of the text, or any notes upon the text, previous to publication, will be received from you with that respect which is due to the first scholar of the age, and will give a lustre to every page that is honoured by your animadversions. I am, worthy and learned Sir, you most obliged and most grateful humble servant, JOSEPH WHITE.

P. S. I engage, before the end of October, to send you as perfect a copy of Photius's MS. Lexicon as can be procured.

Oxford, August 9th, 1784.

MY WORTHY AND LEARNED FRIEND,

You have lately accused me of being too lazy in writing to you; I am afraid you will now think me impertinently troublesome. I am under great anxiety about the just delineation of the character of Christ, which is to be the last Sermon of the first volume. Mahomet's is wonderfully improved, since I sent it to you on Friday. Will it not be a little indecorous for the character of the Impostor to be drawn with more brilliancy than that of the venerable Founder of our Religion? The superior difficulty of the task will not strike every reader who perceives a difference in the style. Will you, therefore, my worthy friend, permit me once more to presume on the same disinterested friendship that has repeatedly exerted itself to serve me, for the revisal of this Lecture in particular, and the correction of whatever shall appear to your nice judgment improperly expressed? The extension of some passages that are

concise, the contraction of others that are diffuse and redundant, the elevation of those that are low, and the illumination of those that are obscure, which your pen is so capable of giving, would throw a wonderful lustre over this sketch of sacred biography, and enable me to send it abroad to meet the scrutinizing eye of the public. I know how great is the favour I am requesting; I know the variety and importance of your avocations, and the unreasonableness of my request after obligations so recent in their effects; but I also know the unequalled rapidity of your pen, either in the original structure or in the subsequent improvement of composition; and what have still greater weight with me, those benevolent and friendly dispositions with which you have honoured, worthy Sir, your most obliged and most grateful servant, J. WHITE.

Please to transmit to me my copy of the character of Christ by the post, with any alterations you please to make, as soon as suits your convenience. The press will soon be at our heels.

Speaking with Stinton the other day concerning the book De Tribus Impostoribus,* I desired him to set down on paper what he could meet with on the subject. The next morning he gave me the following memorandum, which, without his permission, I take the liberty of sending you. A full note on the subject of so curious a book would be a singular accession to my character of Mahomet.

It would take up too much space to copy the letters through 1785; they are all addressed "To my worthy and learned friend," and in a note, dated Sept. 29th, he asks for a Sermon for Whitehall.

It may be on any subject, I wish it were tolerably legible.

J. W.

Oxford, December 21st, 1786.

WORTHY AND LEARNED SIR,

I am obliged to you for your kind invitation to Hatton ..... the book (the accursed book) † is actually printing, but the press is slow; nothing, however, is wanting on my part to expedite the publication. You will receive in a few

* See Appendix. † Abdollatiph.

days a satisfactory letter from J. Parsons (Bishop of P.) on the subject of Bellendenus.

Of the Rector (Dr. Stinton of Exeter) I have nothing to say; but that we meet accidentally once or twice a week, shake hands, walk and talk together on general subjects, but never meet at each other's rooms. I remain, worthy Sir, &c. yours respectfully, J. W.

Smith of Pembroke intends to accompany me.

Oxford, October 11th, 1787.

MY MOST WORTHY AND LEARNED FRIEND,

I have been poorly in health, and not much in spirits, for some time past; otherwise I should not have failed, as bound by every tie of decency and propriety, to have written to you long ago. Two or three trifling matters have given me uneasiness, and unhappily I cannot boast of your fortitude; I am no philosopher at all. However, with respect to yourself, I must do myself the justice to say, that not a day has passed since our last meeting, in which I have not thought of you with gratitude, with reverence, and with the most sincere and ardent wishes for your happiness.

I went to the Bodleian immediately on receiving your letter, but could find no manuscript notes on Terentianus Maurus. If you will send me a reference to them, I will copy them immediately. Stinton dined and supped with me on Monday, and I spent a day with him in Exeter last week, by particular invitation. I received information this morning that there is a parcel for me in town from Sir William Jones, and am curious to know the contents, and hope it will contain some observations on the Bampton Lectures, which I understand Sir William has read with attention, &c.

In the foregoing letter, December 21st, 1786, White asserts, that the accursed book is in the press. I find the following lively memorandum, dated "January 12th, 1787," in Parr's hand; the memorandum itself by Mr. Parry, subscribed by White and witnessed by Mr. Parry and Dr. Parr.

The Rev. Jos. White, B. D. Fellow of Wadham C. Oxford, Laudian Professor of Arabic, one of His Majesty's Preachers at Whitehall, sometimes Minister at Hatton, and more often a lover in the same; a great promiser, and no performer; a warm lover, and yet an old Bachelor; a great scholar, but a greater idler; doth hereby and herein, and in virtue hereof, solemnly promise, covenant, engage, vow, and downright swear by Mahomet, Hannah, Fohi, and all other Gods under the earth, and Goddesses upon the earth, among whom he includeth Beelzebub, Belial, and Abaddon, of the former, Hannah the glove-maker, and the Bar Maid of Nando's, of the latter—that he, the aforesaid Professor, will produce and publish, lawfully begotten of his own brain, the long-expected, long-promised, long-neglected, long-delayed, long-hated, and long-abused Latin translation of Abdolatif's History of Egypt, with Notes and Preface thereto belonging, and nothing therewithal connected, prints, paper, and packthread excepted, on or before the 1st of May next ensuing, under the penalty of one guinea, to be by him the said Professor expended in Roast Beef and Old Port, whereof, in consequence hereof, he is not to partake. JOSEPH WHITE.

Witnesses, SAMUEL PARR.
JOHN PARRY.

The Bampton Lectures and the Abdollatiph were not the only demands on Parr's intellect made by Professor White. The following letters will prove that he not only preached for him at Whitehall, but that he also furnished him with a Sermon for the 5th of November, and a Consecration Sermon:

MY MOST WORTHY FRIEND, *Oxford, Feb. 26th*, 1786.

I have executed all your commissions in Oxford with scrupulous exactness. I have employed myself diligently in Abdollatif. I have written to Schultens. I have sent the Preface to the press, and you will soon see it in print.

The Bishop of London has politely excused my attendance

at Whitehall, upon your kind offer of supplying my place. The afternoon Sermon shall be forwarded to you in two or three days.

The good Proctor (Mr. Routh), Smith, Stinton, and John Parsons, desire to be respectfully remembered to you; they are all well. Dr. Adams* is very sorry on your account, that he was absent in January. Yours gratefully, J. W.

I am extremely angry with Gilbert Stuart; the concluding part of the review is very impertinent.†

To the Rev. Dr. Parr.

MY MOST WORTHY FRIEND, *March 29th.*

I return you my sincere thanks for the great favour you have done me, in supplying my preaching at Whitehall. It would have been extremely inconvenient to me to have attended myself; and the audience, I doubt not, thought themselves very much obliged to me for giving them an opportunity of hearing the first preacher in England.

I have executed all your commissions to Mr. Legge, Burgess, &c. &c. The good and the learned among us wish impatiently to see you here; and the Proctor, in particular, desires to know by return of post what night he may have the pleasure of expecting you.

Yours wholly and for ever, J. W.

To the Rev. Dr. Parr.

It was not till near the close of White's life, that Parr recovered from him two Sermons, which had gained him nearly as much fame as the Bampton Lectures themselves. One of them was a Sermon preached at St. Mary's, Oxford, by White, on the

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* Master of Pembroke.

† Is not this the review of the Education Sermon? I quoted a sentence from it under that head as written by White. Is it possible that Stuart should add this concluding impertinent sentence, without White's knowledge?

5th of November, 1787, and which I heard him deliver to a congregation, which with difficulty restrained itself from the demonstration of applause. There was a low buzz, when he concluded a long and eloquent discourse on the influence and stratagems of popery, with the sentence, "And now it waves the olive branch, and now it brandishes the sword." The other was a Consecration Sermon.

By much effort (says Parr, in a memorandum on the following letter) I recovered the two Sermons which I had given to Dr. White. I had forgotten them, though, in his pamphlet, Dr. White had mentioned them slightly. After much evasion, I obtained them; and I endeavoured to obtain them because Dr. Routh had mentioned them to Mr. Bartlam. They were, at my request, delivered into the hands of Dr. Routh, who gave a receipt to Dr. White. Dr. Routh was pleased with them; and at last I remembered, that when the Lambeth Sermon was preached, Bishop Hallifax, who heard it, as White told me, said it was superior to the Bampton Lectures. I read only parts of them, when I had recovered them, and I gave them to John Bartlam, who now possesses them.

DEAR SIR, *Birmingham, August 9th*, 1808.

Mr. Warner very obligingly communicated to me the verbal message which, in consequence of bad health, you, while you were at Bath, had desired him to convey to me; and I afterwards wrote to him a very serious message, which it seems he could not deliver to you, because you had then left that place. I expected, however, to be favoured with a letter from you after your arrival at Oxford; and in consequence of the determination which I have formed upon a very unpleasant, but a very important subject, I find myself under the necessity of writing to you for the third time.

It exceeds the bounds of all probability that the two Sermons should not be within your reach; and as, upon examining a copy of the first letter which I had occasion to write to

you, I think it quite superfluous to enlarge upon the reasonableness of my claim, I must again entreat you, dear Sir, by every consideration which ought to weigh with you, as a man of letters and a man of honour, to lose no further time in restoring to me two compositions which, having answered the purpose for which they were originally intended, can no longer be of use to yourself; and, therefore, instead of falling into the hands of any other person, should be given back to myself, their author. You and I are descending, perhaps, rapidly to the grave. It is the sincere, it is the anxious, it is the most serious wish of my heart to avoid altercation. For Heaven's sake, then, do what I require to be done; and what I shall persist in requiring, because I feel the strongest conviction that I am right.

I hope, that the Bath waters have been useful to you, and I shall hear with real and great pleasure, that your recovery is far advanced. I beg my best compliments to your lady, and have the honour to be, with great respect, dear Sir, your faithful well-wisher and obedient humble servant,

To the Rev. Dr. White. S. PARR.

Christ Church, Aug. 20, 1808.

Dr. White presents compliments to Dr. Parr, and informs him, that, according to Dr. Parr's instructions, he has this day delivered to the President of Magdalen College a packet, containing two MSS. viz. a Sermon for the fifth of November, on Matt. x. 34. And a Consecration Sermon on 1 Cor. xiv. 33.

After the lapse of twenty-one years Dr. White cannot undertake to specify the unimportant alterations which he made in these Discourses. The additions he believes to be accurately marked in the margin with red ink.

After the most diligent examination of his papers, Dr. White assures Dr. Parr that he possesses no other copies of these Sermons; and he has no reason to think, that any other copy of either of them exists.

To the Rev. Dr. Parr.

The Rev. Dr. Routh to the Rev. Dr. Parr.

DEAR SIR, *Oxford, Aug.* 21, 1808.

Dr. White called yesterday, bringing two Sermons with him, which he desired me to acknowledge the receipt of in writing. This I did, after examining whether the Sermons agreed with the form of the receipt he had drawn up. He then put them in a paper, sealing it, and delivered the parcel to me. All he said on the subject was, that he had long doubted whether he could find these Sermons.

God bless you, my dear Sir, and believe me to be, sincerely yours, M. J. ROUTH.

But we must go back again in order of time. I insert the following letters to display the management of White, when the Bampton Lectures became part of the triumphant literature of the University of Oxford:

WORTHY AND LEARNED SIR, *Oxford, Dec.* 1, 1784.

I am very much ashamed to say, that since the publication of the Sermons I have been a little dissipated, being overwhelmed with the flattering approbation of the University, and the kind invitations of friends. The period of pleasure is now past, and I am returning to serious application.

I most sincerely beg your pardon for not having paid a more punctual attention to your letters. I have in this instance been guilty of a great fault, for which I am heartily sorry, but I am conscious of no mental ingratitude and no disingenuity.

I think myself extremely obliged to you for your kind intention of reviewing the Sermons; and should much rather have had them reviewed by you than by any other man in the kingdom. But I had no choice at all in the matter. When I went last year into Devonshire to spend a week or two with Stinton, I had the honour of being invited to dinner by several gentlemen in the neighbourhood. At Sir John Chichester's table I MET ACCIDENTALLY WITH MR. BADCOCK, who lives at a few miles distance from Youlston, and who appeared to be a very

gentlemanlike, sensible man. He was extremely polite to me, and kindly offered, if I should publish any future work, he would represent it to the public in the most favourable light he could. The fame of the Lectures (which fame chiefly belongs to yourself) got into Devonshire before the Sermons were put to press. Upon this occasion I received a letter of congratulation from Mr. B. reminding me that he had promised to undertake the Review, and wishing me to send him four or five of the Sermons, as soon as such a number should be worked off; which, when I came to the end of the fifth Sermon, I accordingly did. When the book was published, I sent a whole copy to Mr. B. and since that time have heard nothing farther concerning the Review. I suppose the fact is, Mr. B. had prepared some observations on the subject; and having (as I have heard) mentioned to some gentlemen of our University who are natives of Devonshire, that he should write the critique, did not like to give me the credit of an article which he had taken some pains about. This is the simple history of the business, and I am sure you have so much candour, that you will not be angry with me for what I had no concern in.

I intend to write to you a letter of apology with regard to the publication itself to-morrow; and am in the mean time, worthy Sir, with the profoundest respect and the sincerest gratitude, your most obliged servant, J. WHITE.

The sale of the Lectures continues to be rapid. The last Sermon is considered by every person as the best beyond comparison.

To the Rev. Dr. Parr, Norwich.

I shall now lay before the readers the correspondence between Parr and Mr. Badcock, formerly a Dissenting Minister at Barnstaple in Devon, a man of great learning, and who had distinguished himself by his controversial writings against Dr. Priestley and Mr. Madan, the author of Thelyphthora; by some other theological discussions, and various criticisms and Essays in the Monthly Review. It ap-

pears, from the letters of the Rev. Mr. Hutton to Dr. Parr, that Mr. Badcock had quitted the Dissenters.

In truth he was certainly obliged to leave Barnstaple in consequence of embarrassments in an affair of gallantry, in which his conduct gave serious offence to many of his friends. This affair, I can assure you, is not forgotten by his Dissenting brethren in Devon; and if you say that he conformed to the Church towards the close of his life, when his *judgment was most mature*, I am convinced you will soon see *other* reasons assigned for his conformity; and I wish the subject could be passed over in silence. I am confident that B.'s memory will suffer by the discussion. He found that the unrelenting spirit of persecution was not appeased, even when he was countenanced by the most respectable characters in the county, and the conformity to the Church was not calculated to suppress the malevolence of his foes.

The hints about literary assistance, and the insinuations concerning the dark character of some individual contained in one of Parr's letters, it will be seen, were instantly comprehended by Badcock; for *he* was acquainted with the assistance Parr gave to White, though Parr knew nothing of Badcock's services in the Bampton Lectures.

From Mr. Badcock to the Rev. Dr. Parr, Norwich.

South Molton, Devon, Easter Day 1785.

REVEREND SIR,

I believe my name is not unknown to you. Yours is well known to me; and your great learning and abilities have been frequently the subjects of conversation among my friends.

I am now your petitioner, and I am not ashamed to beg, if Dr. Parr will vouchsafe to grant.

You had, I find, a wish to review our friend White's Sermons. I had made a previous application for them; and I suppose Mr.

Griffiths thought it would have been a slight to me, had he afterwards accepted your obliging offer.

I have for some time been exceedingly ill with my old disorder the head-ache; and have such frequent and severe attacks that I am at times alarmed at an apprehension of disagreeable consequences. All the time I could redeem from the visits of this most unwelcome companion, I have been obliged to devote to other pursuits. The illness of my uncle, with whom I live, hath given me continual anxiety; and his present situation is such as to require all my attention and care.

In this moment of distress and uneasiness I take the liberty of writing to you, to solicit your remarks on White's Sermons. I shall be obliged to you if you would send them to South Molton to be incorporated with those I have made, and with your assistance (which I shall be proud to acknowledge) I shall be able to produce an article worthy of the work. Please to point out what passages deserve most notice. I write in great haste, amidst much distraction of mind and pain of body, and have the honour to be, Reverend Sir, your very sincere and obedient SAM. BADCOCK.

P. S. The article must be ready for the ensuing month.

Dr. Parr's Answer to Mr. Badcock.

DEAR SIR, *Norwich, April 1st*, 1785.

Our friend Mr. Griffiths told me that you were subject to severe head-aches. I am sorry to find the account confirmed by the letter which I had the honour of receiving from you. I am myself exposed to the same disaster, and when your letter came I was confined to my room.

I had intended to review the Professor's Sermons, and I mentioned this intention to Mr. Burney. It gave me, however, great pleasure to find that the task was undertaken in a quarter where I was sure it would be well executed.

I had drawn up a long train of preliminary remarks on the style and use of Sermons, and I had struggled with Hume's position in favour of the Pagan religion, which owed its support to splendid ceremonies rather than to doctrines. As the Review

is begun, these remarks cannot have a proper place, and I have not bestowed a thought on the Sermons in detail. The new edition came out yesterday, and I shall be glad to have the review adapted to it. There is one Sermon which Mr. White shewed me, on the propagation of the Gospel. I think it very sensible, and wish to see large extracts made from it. The book will reach me, I hope, in a day or two; and I will take the liberty of pointing out in a future letter such passages as seem to me deserving of notice. You cannot offend me by any difference of opinion as to their merit. I am no stranger to your great attainments as a critic, and thank you very sincerely for opening with me a correspondence, which I hope for an opportunity of improving.

I shall be glad to hear that you have a little breathing time from your head-ache, and from the affliction you are now feeling on account of your uncle. The observations on miracles are, I think, judicious; and I am pleased with the composition, though I condemn the spirit of the Professor's animated invective against Socinianism. I am, dear Sir, your well-wisher and respectful obedient servant, S. PARR.

From the Rev. Dr. Parr to the Rev. Mr. Samuel Badcock.

DEAR SIR, *Norwich, May 2nd*, 1785.

Set your heart at rest; for I hear from your friends, and I infer from your writings, both epistolary and controversial, that it is an honest and affectionate heart. I will, ex jure postliminii, undertake the review of Professor White's Sermons, and I can only say, the public has a heavy loss in the change of critics. Not one syllable of what I had written before can be used, as you have already published an introduction, and a masterly one, let me say.....On Sunday, too, I must preach before the Bishop, certain Ecclesiastical Dignitaries, and the Corporation. It is a charity sermon, and, should it be published, I desire you to review it; and I also desire you to speak your real opinion, not like the versifier in Persius, 1—55, who exclaims, Et verum inquis amo, verum mihi dicite, but with

the sincerity of a man who feels some little confidence in his own strength, and who feels as sincerely the greatest respect for your judgment, and the greatest esteem for your candour. How far is Devonshire from Warwickshire, where I am going to live? The map frightens me; but I hope balloons will soon enable us to see each other. Towards such men as yourself, I have a strong curiosity, like Horace, to know the "vultum habitumque hominis;" and should our cross fate deny me the satisfaction, I yet hope to meet you, and men like you, in a better life, when *we shall know even as we are known.* I am, dear Sir, your hearty well-wisher and obedient servant,

SAMUEL PARR.

It will be seen, in the correspondence immediately following, that White's negligence, to give it the mildest appellation, had excited Badcock's anger against Parr, in consequence of the detention of a letter. What White's motives might be, it is not difficult to conjecture. Was it jealousy, or was it fear? The subsequent events throw a light upon this dark manœuvre; and well might he apprehend the meeting, and the growing friendship and confidence of two men whom he had duped and cajoled. It is a fine specimen of what Parr terms, in his remonstrance to White, "your own dark management, united with your own clumsy execution."

From the Rev. Dr. White to the Rev. Mr. Badcock, inclosing "a copy of Dr. Parr's letter to Mr. Badcock."

DEAR SIR,

Professor White drives the pen, whilst I am wielding the pipe; and though the fumes of tobacco are friendly to stupefaction, the remembrance of you, of your talents, and your virtues, inspires me with cheerfulness, and almost animates me

to eloquence. But away, my dear Sir, with studied sentences, and rounded periods, and all the idle parade of literary compliment. I, for two months, have been emancipated from the galling fetters of my profession. I am at this moment open to all the generous and expanded feelings of friendship; and to you, who are a scholar, a philosopher, and a Christian, I find an object which calls forth their utmost vigour, and fills up their most complete extent. I have read and admired your writings; I have heard, and I love your character. I long to see you, to converse with you, and to enjoy, under the auspices of your presence, and the animating influence of your example, those pure and sublime pleasures which can only be tasted by scholars who are without pedantry, by philosophers who judge without dogmatism, and by Christians who believe without bigotry. White tells me that you never eat, never drink, and, what is worse than all, that you never smoke; but he does ample justice to the soundness of your judgment, to the copiousness of your knowledge, to the gaiety of your spirits, to the purity, to the candour, and to the benevolence of your heart. Let me, then, entreat you to saddle your horse, and hasten to Oxford, where I shall stay till the 14th of January; and where the cup which I am now quaffing will neither be full nor sweet, unless you pour into it the ἀττικὸν μέλι which flows in rich and abundant streams from your head and heart. God bless you, dear Sir, and grant the continuance and increase of your friendship, as one of the most important of those blessings which he in his providence has in store for me.

[What follows the Doctor wrote with his own hand.]

You will read and believe, and understand, and feel, what I write, when I subscribe myself, yours most respectfully and heartily, SAM. PARR.

Exeter College, December 24th, 1785.

DEAR SIR, *Wadham Coll. Aug.* 7,* 1786.

The above letter, of which I took a copy at the time, was

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* White's note for £500 has the same date, and was probably sent as one of the "inclosed papers."

hastily written one night about half-past twelve at the Rector of Exeter's, where Dr. Parr and myself happened to be alone, and were speaking of you. It miscarried, I apprehend, through my paying the postage, and sending it, together with the letter, by an improper person to the office.

I am much obliged to you for the great civilities you were so good as to shew me when I was last in Devon; and am, dear Sir, with the sincerest respect and the most affectionate regard,

Yours, J. WHITE.

Please to present my best respects, with many thanks, to your mother, your sister, and your uncle.

I am going to Dr. Parr's at Hatton, near Warwick, to-morrow morning, and shall be there at least eight days, where I hope to have the pleasure of hearing from you. The inclosed papers, marked on the outside, "Memorandums. Monthly Review." you will be so good as to keep by you, and return them me when I have the pleasure of seeing you next in Devon.

From the Rev. Mr. Badcock to the Rev. Dr. Parr.

DEAR SIR, *South Molton, July*, 1786.

I find there hath been a misconception of certain particulars, which I take the earliest opportunity to rectify.

When your admirable Sermon on Education was sent to me, I was in a state both of body and mind ill qualified to do justice to its great and distinguishing merits. I found myself every way unequal to the task of criticism, and was convinced that I was incapable of expressing my own sentiments in such language as I am satisfied with. I could not have stated my objections with sufficient perspicuity, or expressed my approbation with sufficient force. I therefore writ immediately to Mr. G——, and desired he would commit the business to better hands, signifying at the same time a wish that you might be informed that I had relinquished the undertaking.

To the objections, which arose from the state of my health and spirits, I added another, and it was this; that I had just then formed a resolution (and from which I never intend to deviate for any person, or on any occasion), that I would not

any longer be known to any author (if it could possibly be avoided) as the reviewer of his work. I have felt the great inconvenience of it. It is a damp on criticism. It represses all its freedom and vigour, and, as it gives me the idea of a task, I always execute it with reluctance, and never recollect it with satisfaction.

I therefore ask your pardon for having precipitately given you any reason to expect that I would undertake the review of your Sermon; but I concluded that it was resigned to better hands, which would do it more justice, and give you greater satisfaction.

This apology is due to your great talents and erudition; and I am sorry that I should so long have laid under the imputation of unfriendliness. I took it for granted, that you had been positively assured, that *I was not the author of the article in which your Sermon is reviewed.*

I also pledge you my honour to another thing. I *never* received your letter from Oxford; I never received one line from you in answer to my last, and, to tell you the truth, I was somewhat hurt at your neglect.

Our friend, Mr. Professor White, is now with me, AND HE CONJECTURES THAT YOU NEVER RECEIVED MY LETTER. The contents I cannot recollect. It was an answer to one in which you speak of your intended removal from Norwich, and I perfectly remember that I regretted that I could not *decypher* some of your *characters,* "for I would not lose a word that drops from the pen of Dr. Parr," or something like that.

I hope you will think of me with your usual respect and friendship. I am sure that, in this business, I have not forfeited my claim to either; and it is my ambition to be loved and esteemed by such a man as yourself.

I have hastily snatched up my pen to throw out my heart to you, without suffering you to think ill of it any longer.

The Professor and myself are going to make a little excursion into the northern parts of the county. I only regret that his stay will be so short. He hath much to see in these parts, and there are many who wish to see *him.* To-day I shall carry him to Sir Bouchier Wray's, and to-morrow to Sir John Chichester's. They will esteem it an honour to entertain him; and he

may be as much at his ease at their houses as at his own College. I hope to have the pleasure of hearing from you soon; and am, with the truest esteem, dear Sir, your very faithful and affectionate servant, S. BADCOCK.

Monday morning, 7 o'clock.

From the Rev. Dr. Parr to the Rev. Mr. Badcock.

DEAR SIR, *August 2.*

The Professor has, I hope, told you that the message by Mr. Griffiths was punctually and faithfully delivered to me. The reasons you assign amount to a full justification of your unwillingness to be known; and yet I cannot help confessing to you that they would rarely act upon my mind with the force they seem to have upon yours. I lament your hard fortune, that, with a wish to be concealed, you should *once* have been known, and when known betrayed, and vilified in the blackest terms, and from the foulest motives. I thank Heaven, that my candour, and my charity, and my heterodoxy, are of a cast so different from Dr. Joseph Priestley's; but I must meet you a little more closely on the subject of the review; and suppose, dear Sir, that you had thought, what the reviewer wrote? You must not have thought disrespectfully of me. The only room I should have had for censure would have been, in the artificial generality of the criticism; in the studied *detrusion* of the work into the Catalogue dungeon; in the apparent solicitude to counteract extorted praise by indefinite and unanswerable censure. Of such writing I do not suspect Mr. Badcock; and he may be assured this is not a friendly way of talking, and I will change it. You, dear Sir, may be assured, that long, very long before the arrival of your letter, on the first comparison of your letter with the critique, I believed my critic not to be Mr. B. I wish you to read this in the hearing of Mr. White. ..... I take it for granted, that his own regard for both of us, and his own fears, least any sort of bitterness should lurk in the minds of either, suggested to him the mention of this affair. But he has heard nothing from my mouth that can warrant him in supposing me to have suspected you; and he does know, from a word or two I dropped on the subject once in

conversation, and once in a letter, that I look towards a man whose obligations to me are numberless, on the score of reputation, interest, and literary assistance, and whose heart I have been exploring for three years, with anxiety to make some determination, and with anguish from that which I have made. But we will talk of more cheerful subjects. An injured and an able man I have long thought you—I now know you to be a social and benevolent one. Let me put you down in a list of friends, with whom you would not shrink to be associated. Come and see me—write to me when you can—and if my answer be not quite so exact as you wish, let me say, as Milton does to his friend Diodati, *δηλον ὅτι ὡς βραδὺς καὶ ὀκνηρός τις ὢν φύσει πρὸς τό γράφειν.*

Where is the Professor? Will you come with him? Desire him to be very careful about my most precious books. Griffiths, I find, is impatient to hear from him. I beseech you to join with his sincere friends in endeavouring to rouse him from this inattention, which (I experimentally know) is made an instrument for degrading his character and retarding his preferment, by certain malevolent wretches at Oxford. This is an additional reason for which I long to see you, and concert some measures to put these calumniating vermin to shame. Take care of your health and spirits; and be assured that all the illiberal and inhuman and infernal slanders let loose upon you, have produced no other effect upon wise and good men, than solicitude for your interests, and a respect for your abilities. I am, dear Sir, with great respect and very sincere regard, your well-wisher and obedient servant, S. PARR.

From the Rev. Dr. Parr to the Rev. Samuel Badcock.

DEAR SIR,

I received, and I thank you for your animated, elegant, and most friendly letter. A full answer to it you shall have when I have time to write one; and yet I wish you to anticipate it by a visit hither, for at Hatton we have a good house, good port, good library, good company, good spirits, and good air; though Dr. J. Priestley lives in our neighbourhood, without partaking of any of these good things, and, what to his mind

may be more afflictive, without the power of interupting them. White is just setting off for Warwick—it is seven o'clock in the morning—and I have been lining his stomach with tea, fortified by rum, cream, &c. &c. not to pamper his appetite, or please his palate, but to preserve his stomach from the cold, for you and I know that he is a Pythagorean in abstinence, and a fine lady in squeamishness. But to return from this Lucilian digression. White is going to Warwick to hear a Sermon, he knows and cares not by whom, or on what—to make himself fine at the barber's, that he may frighten my parishioners with his Jove-like locks in my pulpit this afternoon—and to collect a precious treasure of emetics, cathartics, diaphoretics, and diuretics, which a young Scotch physician has prescribed for him, and which I pronounce necessary for clearing the Professor's intellect and stomach, both of which are sorely injured by his attention, shall we say, or inattention, to Abdollatif. But the work *shall* be done ere he leaves Hatton. Farewell, dear Sir.

Yours truly, S. PARR.

The date of this letter must be the middle or end of August 1786, for White continued at Hatton till after September 6, and he had written the note of hand at Oxford August 7. The P. S. now to be inserted is very curious: it seems to refer to the publication of the Egyptian work: of course the note of hand could have nothing to do with it.

White fills up the sheet by asking,

.....occur to you on the subject, I shall be very much obliged to you for. It is my intention throughout the whole work to intermix, as judiciously as I can, grave scholar-like discourses with those of a lighter and more eloquent turn. The Sermons are specimens of what I mean in the former case, and this sketch of the life of Cleopatra is intended for a specimen in the latter. Yours ever, J. W.

In 1788 Mr. Badcock died at the house of Sir

John Chichester in London; and a note for £500 from White was found by Sir John in his pocket book. Dr. Gabriel, Preacher at the Octagon Chapel in Bath, became acquainted with Mr. Badcock only about six months before his death, on his offering himself as assistant minister.

Death (Dr. Gabriel says) deprived me of an able and faithful assistant—my congregation of a judicious instructor—and, as Dr. White eloquently expresses himself, in his letter to Miss Badcock, "Learning of one of her brightest ornaments; and religion of one of her ablest defenders."

Dr. Gabriel hastened to town immediately after the death of Mr. Badcock; and on the 4th of June had an interview with Professor White, who received intelligence of the note of hand, with apparent confusion and displeasure. Dr. Gabriel then related to him a conversation between Mr. Badcock and himself, which seemed to prove that it was the remuneration for services done by Mr. Badcock in the Bampton Lectures; but, in order to settle all the affairs, it was agreed, that Dr. Gabriel should go down to South Molton in Devon, where Mr. Badcock's sister lived, and where his papers were deposited. He did so.

Miss Badcock produced the original note, and put many of her brother's papers into his possession. Dr. Gabriel then followed the Professor to Oxford, called on him,

.....and not only found him dissatisfied at the result of a journey undertaken at his request, and performed at my own expense, but I was accused of being in league with Miss B. *to pick his pocket* (*I remember his very words*). Incensed at

this charge, I declared that if he persisted in it I would lay the whole conduct before the University; and I gave him till the next morning to reconsider the matter. I called at the appointed time; but the Doctor, during a long and warm conversation, neither retracted the charge nor apologized for the affront,—and *therefore* I mentioned the matter among my friends at Oxford.

This mention of the matter reached Parr's ears, and his astonishment may well be conceived, when it is recollected, that no communication had been made to him respecting Badcock's assistance.—No, not even by Badcock himself during their correspondence. At first, he did not believe the story: but the undeniable testimony of Dr. Gabriel and the Rev. Mr. Hutton, Chaplain of Guy's Hospital, a friend of the Badcock's, dispelled the mist, and cleared up all those doubts, which the shufflings of Professor White had raised in his mind. For the letter to Badcock, which I have quoted, proves that such doubts had been raised up, by the dark manœuvres and ambiguous character of the Professor. Immediately after the discovery of the note of hand by Sir John Chichester, Dr. Gabriel wrote for the first time to Dr. Parr; and Mr. Hutton had some communication with him on the subject of the Bampton Lectures, and in his second letter, which I now copy, nearly the whole of the plot is developed.

DEAR SIR, *South Molton, Devon, June 27th*, 1789.

The respect which I feel for your character, and the candour which I have experienced in your conduct, induce me to address you again on the subject of the Bampton Lectures.

The opinion which I entertained when I had the pleasure of seeing you at Oxford, with respect to Mr. Badcock's claim, and the Professor's conduct, has been fully confirmed since by several letters which Dr. Gabriel shewed me at Bath, and by a conversation with Miss Badcock. You probably recollect that, when we met at Mr. Routh's rooms, Mr. Parsons declared that the original note, which he had seen, was not payable at different times. I then said, that I could venture positively to assert the contrary; but I confess I was almost tempted to doubt my own recollection. I now send you a copy of the original note, which was taken by Dr. Gabriel at Miss Badcock's, in South Molton, and what inference must I draw from this circumstance? Dr. White must have shewn a false note to Mr. Parsons, if his memory can be relied on, which I have no reason to doubt. If my inference be wrong, I shall be obliged to any one who will set me right. *Appearances* are certainly bad. If Dr. W.'s friends at Oxford know any circumstances which can throw new light on this dark business, and choose to conceal them, they are answerable for the consequences; and if I am wantonly suffered to remain in an error when I have done all in my power to discover the truth, the fault is not with me, nor has my own conduct merited such treatment. I have acted openly in the accusation, and I only wish that the defence, if any can be made, may be conducted in the same manner. My own convictions will not suffer me to let the matter rest in its present obscurity. My silence would, in my own opinion, be criminal; for, though it is neither my business nor my intention to be the defender of Mr. B.'s conduct, yet it is my duty to vindicate any man from the charge of dishonesty, when it is in my power. Justice to the memory of the dead, and humanity to the feelings of the living, both forbid my silence; and *you*, I am sure, will allow that the claims of justice and humanity are too sacred to be sacrificed to any private considerations. I firmly believe that the note was given for Mr. B.'s assistance in the Sermons; nor can I discover a single circumstance to confirm the supposition of its having been given for future services. I shall be at Oxford either in the first or second week in July; I shall then wait on Mr. Routh,

and shall take some method of acquainting the University with my opinion. I shall be happy to receive any command from you at Oxford; and I hope it is needless to assure you that I shall be wholly silent with regard to *your* claims, nor shall I even allude to them, without your direction. I am sorry to interrupt your attention to more important pursuits: but I could not withhold from you my present sentiments and determination, without offering a violence to my own feelings. I have the honour to be, Sir, with great respect, your very obedient servant, H. HUTTON.

I presume you have been informed of the circumstances respecting my letter to Schomberg. I write this in such haste that I cannot enlarge on the business.

Copy of the Note.

£500. *Wadham College, Aug.* 7, 1786.

I promise to pay to the Rev. S. B——, of South Molton, Devon, the sum of five hundred pounds *at or before the times hereafter specified, viz.* £50 in the present month, one hundred pounds in the next Oxford Lent Term, and £350 in July or August 1787. J. WHITE.

This note was changed by Dr. White July 22d, 1788, for five others.

There is a long correspondence of Dr. Gabriel's in my possession, in which he communicates to Parr the insults he received from Professor White, on producing the note, and the various steps he was taking to vindicate his own character, and thereby disclosing the secret connection of the Professor with Badcock.

When White was driven from his accusation that Dr. Gabriel and Miss Badcock meant to pick his pocket, he pleaded that the note was intended as a remuneration for the History of Egypt. I have already copied the Professor's letter to Badcock,

in which he sends the detained letter of Dr. Parr, and "Papers and Memorandums." This letter is dated "August 7th, 1786, Wadham College." The note is dated "August 7th, 1786, Wadham College." Not a word does he say in this letter of Egypt; not a word does he say of remuneration for services *to be* performed; and when he writes on September 6th, 1786, he thanks Badcock for his kind offer of assistance, and adds, with his usual dark allusion:

> All I meant with regard to the memorandum was to guard against Hutton's seeing it, in case you happened to receive the letter, and open it in his presence.

This letter was sent from Hatton, where he remained a considerable time; and as has been already proved, where he signed a memorandum, promising to finish Abdollatif, "the accursed book," and WHERE Parr tells Badcock, "*the work shall be done 'ere he leaves it;*" what need then of further assistance?

In the end Dr. Gabriel published his "Facts relating to the Rev. Dr. White's Bampton Lectures;" and has proved to demonstration the large share Mr. Badcock had in their composition. I shall quote little of Dr. Gabriel's correspondence, which is very voluminous, as the essence of it is contained in the 'Facts.' But I insert the following "confidential memorandums for Dr. Parr," from Dr. Gabriel's own paper, that the reader may judge of the whole truth, so far as it lies in my power to place it before him:

Dr. Gabriel had agreed with Miss Badcock, on behalf of the Professor, for whom he took a journey at his own expence to South Molton in June 1788, and at the Professor's particular request, that he should pay her £100 annually, the latter end of November, for five years successively. Dr. White objects to this; and accuses Dr. Gabriel of being *concerned* with Miss Badcock in *picking his pocket*, as it were, of so much money, on his return to him at Oxford, by desire also, from South Molton; where he then angrily said, he would go himself and settle the matter with Miss Badcock. He did go, and exchanged his note for £500, payable by instalments, in sums of £50, £100, and £350, dated "Wadham College, Oxford, August 7, 1786, for five notes, payable in half the time Dr. Gabriel had stipulated for with Miss Badcock.

Extract from Dr. White's letter to Dr. Gabriel on his way to Devon.

I have no doubt that Miss Badcock has behaved with strict honour in a point of such delicacy. If she refers the matter to you as a common friend, perhaps I may have the pleasure of meeting you at Oxford during our week of Commemoration. I leave every thing to your discretion, and shall acquiesce in every thing you may think proper to do on this occasion.

Extracts of different letters from Dr. White to Mr. Badcock.

Nov. 27, 1783.

Our correspondence must be a profound secret. The world suspects that my journey* has not been a mere excursion of pleasure. You will therefore please to direct your letters to me thus—*To John Richardson, Esq. Wadham College, Oxford.* Mr. Richardson has been a member of our College, and now lives in London; and I shall give strict orders to the porter to bring all letters thus addressed immediately to me. The let-

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* To South Molton.

ters I send to you I shall myself give into the hands of the post-man, as he goes out of Oxford. Dear Mr. Badcock, your great learning, your great understanding, your great virtues, have not produced a more warm admirer, or a more faithful friend, than you have in me. I speak truth only, when I assure you that I shall rank your friendship among the very first honours *and happiest events of my life.*

The parts I particularly wish you to undertake are Lecture I. VII. and VIII.

Of the first, I have nothing farther to say, than to desire, if it can be done with propriety, that some elegant compliment may in some part be paid to the University. Lecture VIII. I leave wholly to yourself.

Dec. 9th, 1783.

Your Introduction to Lecture I. dated Dec. 5th, gives me the most perfect satisfaction. It is extremely ingenious, and incomparably excellent. I did not think it possible for my remarks to have been introduced with such perfect propriety.

Jan. 8th, 1784.

Dr. Parr is at present employed in reviewing this Lecture (No. II.) and has already sent me his revision of the first half, executed in a masterly manner. I request the favour of you to undertake the subject from this place, and to continue it up till the final establishment of Christianity. I devolve the whole business on yourself. I have no hints to suggest to you, and you need none. The part where we encounter Gibbon ought to be brilliant, and the conclusion of the whole must be animated and grand..... I most earnestly entreat you to finish the third Lecture as soon as it suits your convenience, and to adapt your manner of writing, as much as you possibly can, to the style of my printed Sermon. Your Scripture allusions are extremely happy, but in the Sermons which I have already preached before the University, I have used these allusions not sparingly. Will it not be right to approach as nearly as we can to former specimens? &c.

July 14*th*, 1784.

Your most valuable communications during the course of these Lectures have contributed very greatly to give them the celebrity they possess. I have written to Murray and Cadell, desiring to know whether they would choose to make me any proposals, on the idea of sharing the expences and profits. I expect their answer this week; and I request the favour of you to inform me explicitly which of the two modes you yourself prefer, as you are solely concerned in this part of the business.

Dec. 2*d*, 1784.

It has likewise happened, very unfortunately, that my creditors have lately brought in their bills with some degree of impertinence; and I have been obliged to divide amongst them £25, which I had destined for Mr. Oliver. Permit me again to return you my most grateful acknowledgments for the very friendly and essential services you have done me on this occasion. Without you the work could not have been produced, and all my prospects must have been for ever closed. Yours, with the sincerest respect and affection, J. W.

MY DEAR AND WORTHY FRIEND, *Nov.* 23*d*, 1785.

I have received your affectionate letter, and am extremely ashamed to have given occasion to the purport of it. Appearances are against me; but at bottom, I hope, every thing is sound. There is no man in the world for whom I have a greater esteem than yourself; no man whom I view in a more liberal light; no man whom I would serve with more sincerity of mind, &c. &c. &c. In the present instance, I waited for an opportunity of testifying my civility in another manner, which I had not an opportunity of doing till yesterday, and which I forbear to do at present, for fear of giving offence.

Hatton near Warwick, Sept. 6*th*, 1786.

All I meant with regard to the memorandum was to guard against Hutton's seeing it, in case you happened to receive the letter and open it in his presence.

March 5*th*, 1787.

I request the favour of you to supply me with doctrine for

Whitehall on Sunday se'nnight. I have heard you once mention a Sermon, which you considered as one of your happiest productions, which you kindly offered to lend me. May I hope for the communication of this favour by post (directed to me at Oxford) in seven or eight days. Yours sincerely, gratefully, and affectionately, J. W.

MY DEAR AND WORTHY FRIEND, *April 27th*, 1787.

I am extremely sorry that I have been the cause of so much uneasiness to you. Your kind (theological) communications came *all* safely to hand—they were excellent in themselves and answered in the highest and most perfect degree, your friendly intentions. I confess, with shame, I behaved extremely ill, in not gratefully acknowledging the receipt of your admirable Discourses, and not thanking you immediately for your affectionate letters. What then can I say in excuse for the neglect? I might indeed plead, and most truly, that some matters of a private and domestic nature have lately given me much uneasiness, and occupied all my thoughts. But this, I know, would not be a sufficient apology. I must therefore throw myself entirely on your generosity, and if you can once more pardon such very blameable omissions of attention, I pledge myself, and most solemnly engage, never to give you any just ground of complaint and reproof on a similar occasion.

MY DEAR AND WORTHY FRIEND, *November 2d*, 1787.

I think I can promise absolutely to send you a twenty pound note within this fortnight, and if you want fifty pounds more I will endeavour to procure it for you. I understand the tithes of my living for the first year are to be paid me about the 10th. Make yourself perfectly easy about pecuniary matters.

The injury Parr had received from White, by his disingenuous concealment of Mr. Badcock's part of the composition in the Bampton Lectures, roused his indignation. On the first mention of Badcock's share in the work, Parr denied the possibility of its being so; and with his usual fervour launched forth

in praise of the Professor—of his knowledge—of his accomplishments—and his capacity for performing the task which he had undertaken. So earnest indeed was he, that Badcock should have no share in the honour, that, in an unguarded moment, he let loose an intimation, that he was the only man in Dr. White's confidence, and acquainted with the secrets of the composition. In fine, he told it as a secret to Mr. Smyth, of Pembroke College, Oxford, that it was not Badcock, but himself, that had given assistance to the Professor.

The disclosure of his assistance in the Bampton Lectures was at first whispered through the University of Oxford; but at length was clamoured through every Hall and College, and exposed to the public by the newspapers. Many were the reflections cast upon Dr. Parr by certain members of the University. By some, his claims were discredited altogether; by others, they were depreciated as of no importance; and by none were they supposed to extend far, until they had been examined by a delegation of gentlemen in the presence of Professor White and Dr. Parr, and found to consist of about one fifth of the whole composition. From the moment of detection, the Professor threw off the mask of being Parr's gratefully obliged servant; and with difficulty any answers to his letters could be extracted from him. His friends, however, deemed an inquiry necessary; and accordingly Dr. John Parsons, late Lord Bishop of Peterborough, and Dr. Richards, late Rector of Exeter College, accompanied Dr. White to Dr. Parr's at Hatton. The fol-

lowing letters will explain the nature of the interview and its results:

From Rev. Dr. Parr to Professor White.

Rev. Sir,

During the course of my enquiries into the valuable assistance which you had received from Mr. Badcock, and the strange concealments which you had practised towards me, I last year had the honour of receiving from you one note, and three letters. The note was written from Gloucester about the beginning of May. The letters are dated from Oxford June 2d, 13th, and 18th. The note contains a general and guarded acknowledgment of two letters, which you had received from me upon a very "unpleasant subject;" and to the first of which you sent no answer, till an answer was extorted by the indignant expostulations of the second. The letter of June 2d, announces your compliance with my requisition for examining the Lectures; and your intention of calling upon me with Mr. Parsons and Mr. Richards for that very important purpose. The letter of June 13th, refers to some enquiries, made after the examination, concerning certain passages, which I supposed to have been overlooked during that examination; but evades all specific and unqualified answer to the specific and qualified claims enumerated in a letter which I wrote to Mr. Parsons upon June 11th, and the contents of which were communicated by Mr. Parsons to you. The letter of June 18th was occasioned by one which I had written to you upon the 15th, in answer to yours of the 13th. It includes both your refusal to undertake a second and early journey into Warwickshire, which I proposed as the best expedient for a second and ultimate revisal; and your profession "to consider duly those new claims which I might produce, when they should be clearly stated in the margin of a copy of the Lectures you had left with me at Hatton, and when they also should be accompanied with a final declaration, that I neither could nor would produce any more. But neither of the two last letters contains the smallest explanation of that ambiguous and unbecoming language, which you had suddenly assumed towards an acknowledged coadjutor, nor the

slightest attempt to vindicate yourself from those charges which I had peremptorily alledged, and repeatedly enforced against you, for affording me less of your time at Hatton than I expected you to afford; less than upon such an occasion you ought to have afforded; less than in reality you could have afforded; and for pleading a pretended necessity to return to Oxford by a day upon which you actually did not return. I particularize, Sir, these circumstances, in conformity to a rule which I have lately prescribed to myself in conducting my correspondence with Dr. White, and the propriety of that rule will be readily admitted by a scholar, who, like yourself, has been taught by some recent events to see and to feel the importance, both of accuracy in recollecting, and fidelity in statement.

It is very true, Sir, that, in consequence of your letter dated the 18th day of June, I sent to Mr. Routh for the marked copy in his possession; and that, in pursuance of my intention to revise the Lectures again, and to acquaint you with the result of that revisal, subject, no doubt, to the conditions which you had stipulated, and to which I had myself acceded. I first employed Mr. Bartlam in marking my copy by Mr. Routh's, and then compared the two copies so marked. It is also true that, from the time of that comparison to the present hour, I have not taken the trouble of examining whether any other passages were corrected, substituted, or added by me, beyond those which I had mentioned in my letter to Mr. Parsons. To this plain account of the fact, I shall as plainly subjoin my reasons. I had heard from your opponents that you professed a very heroic indifference about the Bamptonian Controversy; and I had also heard, from some of your acquaintance, that you were likely to persevere in preserving a prudent, and it may be a dignified silence. As, therefore, I did not design to assert my pretensions directly and publicly, till I should find that you had directly and publicly depreciated them, I felt no very strong impulse to gratify my curiosity more than it was already gratified; or to fortify my *rights* more than they were already fortified. Here, Sir, it is proper for me to remind you, that if I had not found myself deceived about the whole train of your transactions with Mr. Badcock, I should never have brought

forward any claims at all; and that, if I had not been again deceived, about some circumstances in your visit at Hatton, I should never have had a thought of looking after any additional claims. My declaration at first was aimed against Mr. Badcock, whose pretensions, as I was informed, and it should now seem misinformed, at Oxford, covered exclusively all the Lectures. My enquiries afterwards were addressed to you and to Mr. Parsons, because, during our interview, we *seemed* to have overlooked a part of what I had written.

Mr. Routh's copy was returned to him in the October Term. But having heard some injurious and groundless reports, which were circulated by your partizans, and which do not appear to have been checked by yourself, I, in a spirit of sincere confidence, and for the purposes of self-defence, lent my copy to a particular friend, who lives at a great distance, and from whom I have not yet received it. Whether or no, *after* receiving it, I *can*, upon further examination, "*set up*," as you rather invidiously phrase it, any further new claims, I confess myself unable to determine. But as by your letter, which is dated March 2d, 1790, and which I received last Wednesday, you signify some kind of intention "to make a speedy and public avowal of the obligations you were under to me for the assistance I so kindly afforded you in the Bampton Lectures," and as you assure me "of your wishes not to conceal or depreciate a single word which really came from my pen," I now send you the fairest and fullest answer which, in the absence of my marked copy, it is possible for me to give..... I perceive, Sir, that, in your polite and elegant epistle of March 2d, you do not take any notice of a letter which I wrote to you about the end of last August; a letter, in which I told you of my interview with Dr. Gabriel; a letter, in which I assured you of my having endeavoured to do you some service; a letter, to which you vouchsafed to send no answer; and of which, I am told, that you have been pleased to speak in very unjust and very opprobrious terms. Indeed, the particular allusion which has been made to that inverview, and the perverse inferences which have been drawn from it, by one of your anonymous panegyrists, convince me, that my conduct has been grossly misrepresented, not by yourself, I would hope, but by some injudicious

and precipitate zealots, in whom you have condescended to confide..... After what has passed between us about Abdollatif, I will make no apology for remarking, that the Latin quotation in your last letter is in all respects but one justifiable as to the phraseology, and seems to proceed from some very learned friend, who is no less conversant than Dr. Parr in Preface reading, and somewhat more conversant than the Laudian Professor in Preface writing.

To foresee your future measures, is certainly not in my power, and as certainly it is not my business to scrutinize their various motives. But whatever those motives may be, I am not wholly unconcerned in the measures themselves; and therefore I feel myself neither inclined to oppose, nor obliged to thank you for a *seeming* act of justice performed under such circumstances, which leave me in great doubt as to its real qualities, and as to its proper application. I am ready, Sir, to accept, but disdain to require, the insertion of my name in a new edition of the Lectures, and in your translation of Abdollatif. I shall consider that insertion, not as owing to any right which I had myself originally urged, or the indulgence of any expectation I had originally formed, but as the effect of certain unforeseen circumstances, which chiefly respect yourself, and by which you are induced to declare, what, however, some time ago, you would have desired even to conceal. All I have to add for the present is, that I wish you to publish in a note, or in any other form which you may prefer, the Memorandum which is inserted in our copies, and which was signed by you, by Mr. Parsons, by Mr. Richards, and by myself. Such a publication will answer many useful ends; and among the rest, it will tend to establish the validity of your title to the plan, and it will explain the extent of my assistance in substitution. With great respect, I have the honour to be your most obedient servant,

S. PARR.

March 7, 1790.

The letter just quoted of Dr. Parr is out of the order of time, but it so clearly distinguishes the order of the transactions, that I have made it the

introduction to the statement, testified by the letters now to be inserted.

From the Rev. Dr. White to the Rev. Dr. Parr.

REVEREND SIR, *Oxford, June 2d*, 1789.

Before the receipt of your favour, Mr. Parsons had told me the result of your interview with Mr. Hutton. He has also signified his willingness to accompany me into Warwickshire, as a witness to our intended conference. This, he says, was the only character in which he undertook to act. But as he solemnly declines acting a second time, even in this character, I am confident you will pardon my requesting that a fourth person may be present at our meeting, particularly as the gentleman I mean is Mr. Richards, of Exeter College. Unless you should object to this proposal we intend being at Hatton about eleven o'clock on Tuesday next; when the joint testimony of any one who is honoured with your confidence, will be perfectly acceptable to, Reverend Sir, your obliged and faithful humble servant, JOSEPH WHITE.

I beg my most respectful compliments to Mrs. and Miss Parr.

Of this interview Parr himself has given an account in a letter to the Rev. Henry Kett, for which see Appendix.

From the Rev. Mr. Parsons to the Rev. Dr. Parr.

DEAR SIR, *Balliol College, June 13th*, 1789.

I received your Letter dated Thursday, June 11th, and have communicated the contents of it to Mr. Richards, Mr. Routh, and Dr. White, who will return an answer for himself. With respect to what concerns myself, I must inform you that I have this day delivered the marked copy of the Bampton Lectures, which you entrusted to my care, into the hands of Mr. Routh. After a most careful collation of the two copies, made by Mr. Richards and myself, in the presence of Dr. White, no one important difference was found to exist. The few and trifling differences, which had arisen either from the incorrect or indis-

tinct marks of Dr. White, have been corrected by Mr. Richards agreeably to those marks which were made by me under your directions. So that the two copies now agree most perfectly; and at the same time, the alterations which have taken place in Dr. White's copy, since we left Hatton, being made by a different hand, may be clearly and distinctly ascertained.

I have compared the passages to which you refer in your letter with the marked copy, and I find that in page 32, from "To the word of God," down to "dangerous mistake," is not marked. In page 229, from "He disdained to conciliate," down to "class of men," is not marked. The rest of the sentence, from "However dignified," down to "enthusiast," is marked *little corr.* The whole of page 402 is already marked *Add.* Page 403, from "When, therefore, any religion," down to "circumstances of man," is not marked; but from "And as its," down to "Deity," is marked *little corr.* The remainder of the passage to which you refer is not marked. Page 435, from "The moral influence," down to the end of the paragraph, is marked *Q. corr.*

And now, dear Sir, you will permit me to repeat most respectfully, indeed, but most firmly, my fixed and unalterable resolution, to abide by the declaration which I made at Hatton, viz. that I will not interfere any further in any way, or under any character, between you and Dr. White, in this most delicate, and in every point of view most unpleasant business. I am, dear Sir, with very great respect, your most obedient, humble servant, JOHN PARSONS.

Under the guidance of Mr. Parsons, the Professor was secure of steering a *discreet* course; and so, on the very day on which Mr. Parsons wrote the above, he writes as follows:

REV. SIR, *Oxford, June 13th*, 1789.

If you will please to signify to me, in your own hand-writing, that the new claims *you* have set up respecting the Bampton Lectures, in your letter to Mr. Parsons dated Thursday, June 11th, 1789, are all the claims you ever can or will make, I will immediately take them into consideration, and allow

every thing to your pretensions which I can allow, consistently with truth. I am, Rev. Sir, your respectful humble servant,

JOSEPH WHITE.

In answer to this Parr replies

That more time and consideration are necessary. With your requisition about my own hand-writing I cannot safely comply. What I write I mean sincerely; what I mean sincerely I wish you to understand completely; and this end cannot be answered if my letters be written by my own hand. You formerly condescended, without hesitation and without complaint, to receive some of my alterations in the Bampton Lectures, though conveyed in the hand-writing of other persons; yet secrecy was then much more necessary than it is now. You seem to say that you will not immediately take into consideration the new claims made in my letter of Thursday last, unless I give you some assurance that they are all the claims I ever can or will make. Permit me to tell you, Sir, that I cannot, without extreme folly, and extreme injustice to myself, give you any such assurance. It is my right to bring forward any fresh claims which, upon any fresh perusal, may appear to me in any degree probable, provided I reserve, as I always have reserved, a peremptory determination upon the validity and extent of those claims, till I hear what you have to say about them. It is your duty to examine my claim, as soon and as far as I make it. Such an employment may be troublesome, but it is a trouble of your own creation, and if you will not take it there can be no doubt, in my mind, about the motive, as there ought to be none in yours about the consequence. What you avoid doing in a private correspondence, you may be compelled to do by a public appeal. If you had given a longer time, when you were last at Hatton, for doing what could not be fully done in the time you actually allotted, and even if you had been pleased to spend with me that time which you did spend at Warwick, there could have been no necessity for a second examination, nor any distrust in my mind about the sufficiency of the first.

Sir, I have proposed nothing but what was submitted to your inspection, and I have decided upon nothing but what was au-

thorized by your approbation. In a case so extraordinary, justice almost excludes the ordinary restraints of delicacy. Hitherto, however, I have endeavoured to be delicate as well as just. But I now begin to feel what is due to my friendship and to my honour; and in the support of them I may be induced to set up such claims as you can neither resist or evade; and in such a manner, too, as may leave you without an apologist among the wise, without a patron among the great, and without a friend among the good.

I have extracted the above, which in Parr's own hand writing is inscribed, "in answer to the 13th." It is dated June 15th, 1789. It is interlined and careted, so that I may not have been correct in the location of the sentences.

In answer, the Professor dated his letter, Oxford June 18th, 1789.

REVEREND SIR,

I have received your letter of the 15th, and must beg leave to reply, that when I left Hatton on the 9th you never even hinted that your claims were not completely ascertained. You must therefore excuse my undertaking a second journey into Warwickshire. How far you could reasonably desire me to do it, must depend on the magnitude and justice of your new claims.

I am, however, willing to comply with the spirit of your request. These new claims (if any such can be produced) may be clearly stated in the margin of the copy of the Lectures which I left with you at Hatton, and the book thus marke may be transmitted to me at Gloucester. Whenever you send them they shall be duly considered; but I beg that they may be accompanied with a full and final declaration, that you neither will nor can produce any more. I am, Rev. Sir, with great respect, your humble servant, J. WHITE.

Parr in his answer to the 18th:

REVEREND SIR,

Had you stayed at Hatton, instead of hastening back to

Warwick, there would have been no room for further inquiry; and had you been at first disposed to answer the questions which further inquiry might have produced, there would have been no necessity for a second journey into Warwickshire. Why the first journey was inefficacious, I explained at large in my letters to you and Mr. Parsons. And I observe that in your letters no direct attempt is made to show why you spent so little time at Hatton, and so much at Warwick. The plain fact I take to be this: the business was *unpleasant*, and you therefore wished it over soon. But it was *also* important, and I therefore wished it to be done well, especially when by doing it ill *you*, or, it may be, your dead coadjutor, had something to gain, and I, your living coadjutor, had something to lose. I do not charge you with a deliberate intention of injustice; but I do suspect you of not being sufficiently careful to render justice. I do not maintain that the want of correctness with me arose from an excess of partiality towards Mr. Badcock, but I do suppose that the embarrassment which you felt from his claims and from mine, left you without much solicitude to ascertain what belonged to me rather than to him. You will permit me to add, that, after having obtained from my own inquiries, a complete knowledge of what I myself have done, I shall soon be enabled, by the candour and politeness of Dr. Gabriel, to know what was done by Mr. Badcock; and it is now proper for me to tell you yet further, that as Dr. Gabriel enters into detail with me about his friend, I shall be equally explicit with him about myself.

After discussing the question of the additional claims, he concludes:

As we are neither of us at present disposed for interviews, I shall take the liberty of urging a new claim unconnected with the Bampton Lectures; and my chief reason for producing it now is, to prevent a repetition of such treatment as I have lately experienced. I therefore beg of you to seal up all my papers relative to the *whole* ordination Sermon at Lambeth, and to deliver them sealed to Mr. Routh.

In consequence of these expostulations, some-

thing more was conceded, and in the end "a Statement" was published "of Dr. White's Literary Obligations to the Reverend Samuel Parr, LL. D." which the Professor sent to him with the following Letter:

REVEREND SIR, *Oxford, May 11th*, 1790.

At length I send you all that part of my pamphlet which respects yourself; and having now acceded to all your requisitions, and adopted all your alterations in your own words, I hope soon to be honoured by your express attestation of the fullness and fidelity of my statement. You have desired me to specify "the points which I gave up by way of accommodation." I alluded to the sentences by which the lines from Homer and Lucan were introduced, to the passage in p. 116, and to two or three of your lesser emendations, where I had some doubt about the precise quantity of the alterations.

You have wished me also to inform you whether I decided (with respect to certain passages of the Lectures) from the suggestions of mere memory, or from communications of yours transcribed into some of my own papers. I answer, that I decided from the suggestions of mere memory, and that I had no written documents whatever to direct me.

With regard to the THREE *Gloucester Sermons*, I omitted the mention of them for the very excellent reasons suggested by yourself.

In pages 267 and 435, I believe that you neither corrected, substituted, or added, a single word; and nothing can be stronger than my conviction on this head.

As this letter will, I trust, be the last I shall have occasion to write to you on a subject so irksome to us both, permit me, Sir, to take this opportunity of thanking you for those expressions of esteem and good will which are sometimes mixed with your reproaches, and which remind me of those happier days, when the manly frankness and elegant pleasantry of your letters, were exceeded only by the kindness of your professions, and by the ardour and sincerity of your friendship. How effectually your talents enable you to assist those for whom your heart is

interested, the world has long known; yet no man, Sir, can bear more unequivocal and more willing testimony to all that is great and good in your character, than your most obedient and respectful servant, J. WHITE.

P. S. I should be particularly obliged to you for the list of Corrigenda that is to be subjoined to the Latin version of Abdollatif. The variations I have written in the margin of the printed copy are taken from a lately discovered Translation of Pocock.

There is another long explanatory letter from the Professor, most of the matter of which is printed in his Statement, and with that letter all correspondence dropped till the year 1793, when he, good-naturedly enough, accedes to Parr's good-humoured request of a guinea for the decoration of Hatton Church; and in 1801, when the Professor sent him the quarto edition of Abdollatif, Parr wrote him the following letter:

LEARNED AND DEAR SIR,

By some strange fatality the box which contained your book did not reach me before Monday the 30th of March, though I find the 13th of March written upon the card. Some years ago I understood you did not mean to publish the Preface which I had corrected, and therefore I gave myself no further trouble about it, and, indeed, I remember that you had prepared a subsequent and short Preface. Had I known your final intention of publishing that in which I was concerned, I should have requested your permission to examine it, for you must recollect, quite as well as I do, that I uniformly spoke both of the Preface and of the Translation, as requiring further care; that I told you so when you hastily printed an octavo to be shown to the Archbishop, and that I told you so, when you informed me of your polite and friendly determination, to make some acknowledgment of my assistance. From the day that you left Hatton to carry the book to the Archbishop, even to this hour, nothing has been done by me to the Preface, and as you took away a

copy of the octavo which I had desired you to leave, I could employ no care upon the Translation until I received the quarto, and I well remember that when I heard of the quarto's being in the press, I begged the favour of you to send me proof sheets that I might correct them; you did send me one, but no more, and I forget whether any alterations were made in it, and even whether I had time to alter. Indeed, I am inclined to think that the one proof, of which I speak, had been finally printed off. Since that time I repeatedly have requested you to indulge me with your presence and aid while we went over the quarto together, and when I found this proposal either inconvenient or disagreeable to you, I took the liberty of transmitting to you many passages which I had marked as inaccurate in the quarto, and I should have asked your leave to see your manuscript of the Preface, if I had been aware of your purpose to make me responsible to the public judgment for a composition which I considered as not sufficiently prepared for the public eye, and now these evils are in part unforeseen, and are now altogether irremediable. In the Preface, page 12, I should have put "inter" before "has," and I should have objected to the expression "puritati Sermonis," which I have been accustomed to condemn from the time that I was eighteen. But my hope is, that the words in which you speak so handsomely of me, will not be considered as flowing from me. I wrote "has inter," and should have changed it into, "inter has." You wrote puritati Sermonis, and I should have recommended some alterations. In the life of Abdollatif, and in some parts of the Preface to the Notes, I trace my own style; I am very sorry you left solummodo, of which I took notice when I pointed out many passages that required alteration. Well, I have great satisfaction in telling you that your translation is far superior in perspicuity, elegance, and the correctness of the Latinity, to that of Pocock and to the Preface, to your friend Paulus. I say again it is far superior. I am glad that you dedicated the book to Sir William Scott, and I am pleased with the Dedication, though not a word of it was ever shown to me. In a few days I will send the critique, which will be very plain, and very short, but you will give me leave to perstringe the unfortunate "puritas Sermonis." It is unnecessary to trouble you with the faults that I meet, or the

alterations I should propose, as I turn over the pages. You would have laughed, learned Sir, at my distress when I met with strange tenses, strange constructions, and strange words, and at my joy when I found that they were the faults of Pocock, whom you certainly were not obliged, and perhaps not authorised to alter. I wish you had said that I know nothing of Arabic, or Persic. I knew a little of Hebrew, when you and I used to meet; and now I know a good deal more, I cannot say that my veneration for oriental learning is much increased. Again I congratulate you upon the general merit of your translation, and upon the appearance of a work, which your friends have long desired to see. I had occasion to mention you respectfully in something, which is likely to meet with your approbation, and will appear in three weeks or a month. I have done the same justice to Dr. Parsons, and soon you will see why.

April 2d, 1801.

The last communication was the recovery of the two Sermons, which Parr so feelingly and solemnly requested of him, and which White after long delay gave up, without expressing any remaining grateful feeling for past favours. For not only had Parr assisted him on the various occasions which have already been noted in the correspondence, but I have two papers * before me, one dictated by Parr to the Honourable Augustus Legge, which, whether it were inserted or not in the Gentleman's Magazine I cannot find; the other, a Review of Abdollatif's History of Egypt, and both, as everlasting memorials of Parr's friendship to White, and of White's merits till he was convicted as a plagiary, or as a borrower

* It will be recollected also that Parr finished the review of the Bampton Lectures, begun by Badcock in the Monthly Review.

without acknowledging his obligations, I here insert. It was intended as a strong plea, or exposition of the Professor's merits, entitling him to a Canonry of Christ Church, which indeed he afterwards obtained.

The succession to the Canonry of Christ Church, which became vacant by the death of the learned Dr. Jebb, has been the subject of much conversation, not only in the University of Oxford, but in all literary and even polite circles in London. It reflects great honour upon Oxford, that each of the three candidates was indisputably and eminently qualified for the distinction to which they aspired. I mean not for the present at least to examine their comparative merit. But on the positive excellence of Mr. White, I beg leave to say a little in your Magazine, reserving to myself the power of saying much more upon it, if there should be occasion, at some future period, and through a different vehicle. The learned world is indebted to Mr. White, for a judicious letter to Bishop Lowth, on the Septuagint version, for an elegant Latin oration, when he entered upon the office of Arabic Professor, and for a beautiful edition of the Syriac version, in which the correctness of the text and the treasures of oriental learning displayed in the critical notes have established Mr. White's reputation among the greatest oriental scholars, of whom Europe can now boast. To these professional publications must be added, an occasional Sermon, and the Bamptonian Lectures, which certainly place him in the first class of English writers. The unprejudiced and truly learned members of Oxford will anticipate me in the mention of several excellent Sermons, which he has preached before the University, and which it is to be hoped will soon appear for the satisfaction of his friends, and the improvement of his readers. He has written for the instruction of the public—he has appealed to the judgment of the public—he has been honoured with the approbation of the public—he undoubtedly possesses great talents and great attainments, and, as undoubtedly, he is not without a portion of infirmities and wrongnesses. But those infirmities and those wrongnesses are not marked by the extinction of virtuous principles, or by radical depravity of

heart. They involve no inveterate habits, and, I will add, no gross overt acts of lewdness, or intemperance, or profaneness. They amount at the worst, not to crimes surely, which we are to detest, but to faults which we should lament, and perhaps with some reluctance condemn. They are more than counterbalanced by moderation upon controversial topics of religion, by diffidence and modesty on all subjects of literature, by candour to the failings of other men, by justice to the attainments of other scholars, by sincerity to his friends, and by a forbearance almost unexampled towards those, who, without provocation, are his enemies. For the truth of these assertions, I appeal to many wise and good men who reside in the University of Oxford, and who know Mr. White, as I myself know him, and love him, and reverence him, with all his real imperfections, and all his real excellencies.

There is one subject upon which, as others will be forward to proclaim his misconduct, I will endeavour not to justify, indeed, but to explain, and to extenuate.

Vexations, wants, unavoidable labour in composing Sermons, unforeseen and almost insurmountable difficulties, in translating Abdollatif—all these cases have contributed to prevent Mr. White from fulfilling his engagements with the Subscribers to that work. Indolence, no doubt, and irresolution; indolence, which often accompanies exalted genius; and irresolution, which springs from depressed fortune, may have had their fatal share. But while we expatiate *invidiously* on what Mr. White is capable of doing, let us seriously consider what he *has already done well;* and, at all events, let the severity of distinguishing censure be restrained among those who are protected by their own dulness, or their own obscurity, from exciting expectations, which men of brighter intellects are sometimes tempted to disappoint. If this representation should be thought too favourable, I will venture to produce a tale, which, I trust, will console the well-wishers of Mr. White, and in some degree propitiate even his foes.

The Arabic text and the Latin translation of Abdollatif, at *this* moment are in great forwardness in the Clarendon Press. The Notes, which are preparing on a much larger scale than was originally intended, will be completed in five months; and

when the work itself appears, the splendour of the performance will, I hope, amply compensate for the delay of the publication. I am, your constant reader, PHILALETHES.

Parr's Review of Abdollatif is prefaced by the following letter:

I have, without asking your permission, taken a liberty, for which I would readily apologize to you, if I thought of you less highly, or felt for you less warmly than I do. I doubt not but you have read, and with surprise too, and with pain, and it may be with some anger, the close of the Review of your Translation of Abdollatif. On a subject which so nearly touches your personal honour, your literary fame, and it may be your worldy interest, I shrunk from secrecy, as from something not only unfriendly but base. Know then, that I am the writer of that review, and if occasion offers, let others know it. As to me or White, I cannot want defence, for I have spoken with firmness indeed, but I trust with decency, some indisputable but important truths.

The delicacy either of your feelings or your situation may make it necessary for you to explain, and authorized as you are to proclaim me, or, if you please, to give up the writer, that explanation I hope will serve all the purposes of defence. Dear Sir, you know my respect for your patron, as well as my regard for you. You also know my love of letters, endeared as they are to me by a long and laborious course of application. You know, let me add, what is yet dearer to me, my firm and sincere attachment to the Church of England, an attachment, not arising from the honest prejudices of education, or upon any sordid views of interest—but upon a sincere and well founded conviction of its transcendant excellence and solid utility. You will not therefore suspect me of meaning offence to any men or set of men, while I am anxious to do justice to you as a scholar, as a man, as one whom I am happy and proud to rank among my best and dearest friends. Mix discretion with your zeal, do not condescend to mention my name to every inquisitive and impertinent babbler; do not conceal it from any man of sense and virtue, whose judgment is worthy either of your attention or my own.

The review:

And now, gentle reader, we will gratify thy curiosity, for curious thou must be, to know the labours of the writer, and the situation of the man. We will not enter into invidious comparison between Mr. W. who is said to be an idle man, and other Professors of his own University, whose diligence we are ready to admit from candid presumption, till they shall give us a more direct proof from some publications. Suffice it to speak the truth, and the whole truth, of Mr. W. alone. He is well skilled in the French, Latin, Greek, Hebrew, Chaldee, Syriac, Persic, and Arabic languages. He is intimately acquainted with the eminent scholars of his own country, for such we suppose Sir William Jones, the late Dr. Hunt, the late Dr. Johnson, Mr. Bryant, Dr. Scott, Dr. Parr, Dr. Adams, and the late Dr. Hunter. He has lived on terms of the closest intimacy, and most cordial friendship, with Dr. Routh, the learned editor of Plato's Dialogues; with Mr. Badcock, the well-known reviewer of Dr. Priestley's Ecclesiastical History; with Mr. Porson, on whom, with Mr. Burgess, the task of supporting and adorning Greek literature in this country has devolved after the death of a Toup, a Musgrave, and a Tyrwhit. He is mentioned with applause by Reiske, the editor of Demosthenes, who was one of the best Arabic as well as Greek scholars of his age. He corresponds with Michaelis of Göttingen, with Schweigæuser of Strasburg, with Villoison of Paris, with Schneider of Tubingen, with Schultens of Leyden, and Bjornstahl of Copenhagen. He has published an inaugural oration in excellent Latin; a Sermon on the Revisal of the English Translation; a Letter to the Bishop of London, on the Septuagint; the Syriac Gospels, in two vols. 4to; the Sermons on the Bampton Lectures. He has also translated this very difficult work of Abdollatif; he wrote the Preface to the Translation of Tamerlane; he corrected the text and the translation; and he is said to be now preparing materials for a history of Egypt, which is to be published by subscription.

So much we have to say for the talents, and attainments, and works of the writer. Upon the virtues of the man we might say much more; but our present business is with his success in

life. By the noble liberality of many worthy individuals, he was extricated from distresses in which he was involved by indiscretion without vice, or the appearance of vice; by generosity of temper, by simplicity of heart, and by ignorance of the world, neither surprising in the academic, nor dishonourable to an ecclesiastic. By regular succession in his College, in which there is little or no preferment, for the space of fifteen years he has received an income of £70 from a fellowship, which he must vacate in two years. By the favour of the University he enjoys £70 per ann. for his Laudian Professorship; and this he will be permitted to enjoy for the rest of his life.

In the truly amiable and truly venerable Archbishop of Canterbury, Mr. White has had the honour of experiencing an adviser, a friend, and a benefactor. Our readers will hear this with pleasure, and yet perhaps they may be tempted with us to ask, Where in this enlightened and Christian country, where in the gratitude or in the wisdom of his contemporaries, where among the luminaries of the Church, or the governors of the State, where are we to look for his patrons? On this subject our readers may be impatient, but we are quite silent. With ourselves, who are only humble reviewers,

βοῦς ἐπὶ γλώσσῃς μέγας.

Notwithstanding this full conviction of his having received the most important literary assistance, without any acknowledgment of it, and even after the publication of the two pamphlets, White's character was still supported by some persons of great name in the University of Oxford; and the Government thought so highly of his talents, and so little of his detection, that they rewarded him with a Canonry of Christ Church, which Parr had vainly solicited for him in the foregoing memorial, when the Professor's character was without impeachment.

That all men did not participate in those sentiments, which seemed to justify the worst literary

frauds, will appear in the letters of Mr. John Bartlam and of Dr. Gabriel, placed in the Appendix, and which will dilute the gravity of the subject with a portion of the levity and gossip of the day, and the following from the Rev. Dr. Smyth, Master of Pembroke College, Oxford, to Dr. Parr:

DEAR SIR, *Dec. 12th*, 1789. *Pemb. Coll.*

An illness, which has confined me to my room for some days, prevented my answering your obliging letter so soon as I ought to have done. It gives me no small pleasure to find that you sometimes think of me, and recall to my remembrance the many happy and improving hours I spent in my last visit to Hatton. We had then a common friend, whom we both of us loved and respected for talents which, I am afraid, he is found no longer to possess; and for virtues, which reproach us for our credulity, and the unguarded simplicity with which we resigned our affections. Firmly persuaded that all his faults were but the amiable infirmities I had often observed in the train of the greatest virtues, and believing that the harmless levity that accompanied all his actions indicated a mind pure and unsullied, but, at the same time, inattentive to its own consequence; I soon became the dupe of my heart. I loved him from principle; and, notwithstanding some few untoward circumstances that frequently occurred, I forced my understanding to submit. Occasional suspicions, it is true, insinuated themselves from time to time; but I either lulled them to sleep, or banished them as unwelcome and uninvited guests, whom my breast was not made to harbour. Had White been indifferent to me, it is more than probable I should have compared his apparent incapacity with the real and brilliant talents that are displayed in almost every page of his incomparable Sermons; and much weaker evidence than is now produced against their authenticity would have been sufficient to have satisfied me that he could not have wrote them. No arguments, however specious, or however confidently insisted on, would have convinced me that he was equal to composition which required the union

of so many and so great powers of the mind, but such as went directly to prove that he was at one particular period of his life, and at no other, under the immediate influence of inspiration. Had I consulted my reason, as much as I did my affection for him, I should very soon have arrived at a conclusion not very favourable to his pretensions. Here, I might have said, is an instance that puzzles and confounds the powers and abilities of our most intimate acquaintance, without ever betraying by design, in any one solitary moment of his life, the most slender proof of genius or learning; without ever deviating by accident from the line of folly and insipid levity, that marks his conversation into even the humble path of common sense. This extraordinary phænomenon bursts upon us like a comet, whose trackless path the eye pursues with wonder and amazement, not at the magnitude or brilliancy of its orb, but because it knows not from whence it comes, and is ignorant whither it is going. Providence, in the place of genius and industry, so necessary to the attainments of other men, seems to have sent him into the world, furnished and accommodated, like the inferior parts of the animal creation, whom the strong and unerring instincts of nature conduct, without labour, without education, and almost without effect, to the ultimate point of perfection they are capable of realizing.

It is true, as you observe, he has a strong party in Oxford; but a party, I think, not of much weight, either of talent or authority; whose strong, but unprincipled zeal has hitherto proved fatal both to his moral and literary reputation. They very early took offence at the slow and timid caution with which their hero was retreating from a contest which he very well knew would in the end cover him with shame and remorse. The Professor, whose real pace is a heavy trot, was extremely unwilling to be thus pricked by their indiscretion into a full gallop. Had these kind gentlemen left him to the guidance of his own natural sagacity, he would have given a glorious day, and afforded excellent sport to the hunters of his reputation. He would have beat a long time about the bush, nor would he have quitted a country so dear to him, from a long and intimate acquaintance, till the united cry of horses and hounds pressing close on his brush, and which every gale brings nearer to him, puts him in mind that his course is nearly at an end.

Animating as this chace may be, permit me, my friend, to declare, that I by no means wish to see you the first and most conspicuous figure. I am very well apprized that you come to the field, mounted on a high-bred Pegasus, whose strong bone, and impetuous mettle, will outstrip the speediest of the pursuers, and secure the whole sport to yourself. Suffer not, however, this noble animal, who has already proved his vigour in hunting down a Bishop, to consume his fire in the vile pursuit of an Oxford Professor. Priestley, Price, the enemies of the Established Religion, and the Government of your Country, the enemies of Johnson, remain yet in their kennels, and invite him to the chase.

Optat aprum, aut fulvum descendere monte leonem.

To be free with you, I think you cannot enter into this inquiry without the hazard of having your real motives wilfully mistaken. I need not inform you, that your literary fame rests on too solid a basis to acquire any additional support from the share you may have had, or may be supposed to have had, in the composition of the Bampton Lectures. Your enemies may say, for they have said it, that, influenced by a rapacious desire of distinguishing yourself, you could not suffer the assistances you afforded in the hours of friendship, and which came from a mind like yours without much effort, to pass into the world unappropriated. It may be, that any declaration on your part of the disinterestedness and purity of your intentions, will not meet with such a favourable reception as you have a right to expect. A character like yours, so much and so deservedly an object of public attention, should not only be free from such imputations, but even from the most remote suspicion of them.

I am persuaded, that your soul is animated with too noble a flame, to be touched with those senseless and wretched attacks, which owe their birth to a morning paper; whose sickly and abortive existence may, by the aid of some favourable circumstance, trail on till the evening, when it dies away, and is heard of no more. I must add, that you have not a friend in this place who wishes to see you take an active part in this dispute.

There are a sort of sententious and half-smothered hints in circulation through this University, which, I must confess, lay

too deep for my comprehension. I am very frequently desired to suspend my opinion of Professor White; that something is soon to make its appearance that will satisfy all my doubts, and remove all my suspicions. I am assured that I am all in the wrong; that a certain fatherless publication is soon to be brought forward (from what quarter I know not, whether from above or from below) that will restore White to his property, and me to my senses; an event, I doubt not, he waits for with full as much anxiety as myself. I am content to stand neuter, till the great day of retribution arrive, and, in the mean time, am reduced to the unfortunate necessity of resting my opinions on the facts ascertained by Dr. Gabriel, and on many other facts not less certain, because they have never yet been published.

We are very much at a loss to account for the famous bond for £500. Am I founded in my conjecture, that it was given to Badcock as a retainer to engage him to fight White's battles with Dr. Priestley? The Egyptian History, the ostensible cause alleged by his friends, is, I think, clearly out of the case. The bond was given in August, and in the following September he writes to Badcock, and thanks him for his proffered assistance in that projected work. This opinion of mine is confirmed by White's frequent and affected eagerness to engage in that controversy; which you may possibly recollect, as well as the pains you took jointly with myself to persuade him that he was not an equal match for his formidable antagonist. This had no other effect than to increase his confidence. He talked big; vaunted his own powers, which he thought were fully sufficient to lay the great apostle of heterodoxy completely on his back. Yes! He came forward with bolder pretensions than any. He blew the horn of battle with a louder blast than his followers; not to provoke the fight, nor to summon contending heroes to the lists. It was the trumpet of the last day of his reputation, whose deep and warning voice called him with all his blushing honours to judgment; a tremendous signal to the scattered materials of nature, the vagrant atoms, the disunited elements to forsake their borrowed and assumed habitations, which they were destined to occupy only for a limited time, and to return to their ancient and undisputed proprietors.

Mr. Bartlam, your late pupil, very frequently pays me a visit. He has very much the appearance of a well-informed and most respectable young man. He discovers on every occasion an innocent and amiable impetuosity, which pleases me infinitely, and leaves me at no loss to conjecture at whose feet he has imbibed it. I have endeavoured to persuade him to quit, at least for a season, the fairy and enchanting prospects of classic lore, and to dig in the mines of science. I made enquiry into the mode of his education at Merton. He informs me that he construes Tully's Offices to one tutor, and the Greek Testament to the other, both of which books, to a boy who has been educated at Hatton, must be extremely interesting and improving. The book you was so kind as to lend me is in the hands of Mr. Bartlam, who will convey it to you. I must beg pardon for not having sent it before.

You will, I am sure, be happy to hear of the powerful exertions the Curators of the Bodley Library have made this year. Their Catalogue is very splendid from the Pinelli Collection. Unfortunately, they have exceeded their commission by above £480. This is a crime that, in the opinion of many worthy members of this University, is never to be forgiven. Some of the Heads of Houses, the Goths and Vandals of literature, who dare not attack in front, but are sure to hang heavy on the rear of every improvement, are extremely indignant. The rest of the University applaud the Curators for their judgment and spirit. It is proposed at present to set on foot a new kind of benefaction, to enable the Curators to make an extensive purchase in the Crevenna Library in Holland, which, I understand, will be soon exposed to sale. It is proposed to the different Colleges who may have monies laying in their chest, to lend such sums as they can afford to part with, to the Curators, who are to pay no interest, but to return the sum by instalments from the annual fund. Magdalen College has sent 100, Queen's 200, All Souls 200, Christ Church 300, besides a subscription of all their members. Dr. Scot 100. It is supposed the other Colleges will follow these noble examples. I am striving with all my might to introduce my own College. If you know of any country gentleman, who is in the habit of suffering considerable sums to lie in

his banker's hands without interest, persuade him, if you can, to deposit them where they may really do some good.

Your obedient humble servant, T. SMYTH.

Thus have I laid before the reader, most of the facts concerning the assistance received by Professor White, in the composition of his Bampton Lectures. These Sermons, so happy in their subject, and so well wrought throughout their whole texture, both in matter and in style, now form part of the classical literature of our country. It well became me, therefore, to trace them through the hands of so great an artist as Parr; and it was the necessary consequence of the discussion, not my fault, that the name of Badcock, and his share in the work, were mentioned.

Whether the plan of the Bampton Lectures was solely White's, may be doubted. Much of the execution lay between him and Badcock; but the whole was superintended and revised by Parr; and if we admit the calculation that one fifth of the whole is Parr's, and that the whole was twice submitted to his revisal, and twice received material alterations from his keen eye and critical pen, we must admit him into a co-partnership in the work.

It will naturally occur to the reader, how could Parr be so deceived and misled, by such a man as Professor White; and how was it possible, that some suspicion should not enter into his mind, considering that White was in the utmost degree of confidence with him, and his frequent companion for five years—"who had consulted him (as Parr says) before the work was drawn up, and during its progress, and be-

fore and after its publication; who had conversed with him upon every topic that was discussed in it, upon every opinion that is formed about it, and upon every defect and every excellence that may be found in it."—How was it possible to imagine that he would deceive such a coadjutor, and such a friend? It was the very awkwardness and apparent simplicity of White's character, that beguiled his friend.

Under the lounging and negligent exterior of a rustic, White concealed many of the qualities of a refined thinker; and though he looked wild and weak, he was actually a man of extreme acuteness. But the slovenly habits, which altered his appearance, sunk into the texture of his character, and deformed the whole construction. So great was his quickness in acquiring languages, that his studies were flighty and incidental; nor could any thing but dire compulsion drag him out of the mire of indolent propensities. Yet, even by such casual starts of application, he gained a stock of learning. His taste was purified, and he attained "that rich and copious style which has accommodated itself to a boundless variety of subjects, and which rises into grandeur, or shines with elegance, according to the occasion." Nevertheless, whilst as an author his thoughts and language were elevated, as an actor in society he was low; and he sunk into petty difficulties because he had not diligence or courage enough to raise up his hand against them. Thus he lost confidence in himself when any deed of importance was to be performed; floundered on, when he ought to have stood erect; and became a mendicant for

literary favours from others, at the very time that he possessed within himself the potentiality of intellectual wealth. It has been seen from the correspondence, how soon he sought the literary assistance of Parr; and had he always sought it as fairly as he did when begging the Preface of Abdollatif, or the Dedication to Archbishop Moore, none could have objected to his obtaining it. The Bampton Lectures led him into irresistible temptation, by opening wider prospects to his ambition. He had chosen a lofty theme. He distrusted his own talents, or his own industry, to handle it with that dexterity which should insure fame; and so warily did he solicit and gain support, that he vainly flattered himself it was impossible but that he must escape detection.

We have already laid open some of his saps and mines — his "dark management, united with his clumsy execution" of some of the manœuvres practised by him. He was resolved to carry reputation by storm, and therefore employed not only the best swordsman in controversy, but the greatest luminary in classical lore, as his allies. But, unfortunately, he did not bring them together into the field; he kept Parr in reserve; whose opinion it always was, that Dr. John Parsons, late Lord Bishop of Peterborough, was a main auxiliary in the formation of the work from beginning to end, without being let into the secret of other persons being also employed.

'I know, Sir, (says Parr, in his remonstrance, or expostulation with the Professor,) Mr. Parsons to be your friend; I hear

that he is your advocate; and I suspect him, Dr. White, of being your avenger. But whatever opinions he may hold, or whatever conduct he may have adopted on this particular occasion, never shall I lose sight of his great and general merit. I admire his learning, I respect his integrity, and I do not condemn even the excess of his zeal.

But Parr's assistance was not confined to the Bampton Lectures. There is mention of three Sermons lent to be preached at Gloucester, and one at Whitehall; and the correspondence will shew the difficulty with which two other Sermons (5th of November and Consecration) were drawn from the Professor. The Preface to White's Diatesseron was also written by Parr. Indeed, from beginning to end, there was nothing but dark management, disingenuous concealment, and frigid insolence on the part of the Professor; and but for the mighty protection apparently extended to him, by the learned majority of the University of Oxford, he would for ever have been branded with the epithet of an impostor. It was a theme of reproach at the time, that Parr assisted Dr. Gabriel in his Statement; and that he betrayed White, by divulging his own share in the Lectures. Till March 1789 Parr knew nothing of Badcock's share in the work. Mr. Hutton informed him of it. He wrote to White his determination to crush the calumny, and that he should come to Oxford. White answered in a strange, obscure, and unaccountable letter, in which he desired him to say nothing of the matter. Notwithstanding this mysterious request, he went to Oxford.

I was there attacked (says Parr, in a letter to Mr. Glasse) by friend and foe. I was silent, till silence was impossible; and, indeed, till it must have amounted to an indirect confession of such guilt, as I did not at *that* time impute to White. I exchanged, however, that silence for good words, warmly pronounced, and not weakly supported. But my opinions and my reasoning were overpowered by opinions more probable, and by reasoning more powerful. Hearing that Badcock set up unqualified and unlimited claims, I, in a moment of honest rage, determined to hew them down, by saying, that I knew him not to be writer of all the Sermons. How, it was asked, did I know it? Because, answered I, part was written by myself; and if Badcock lies in one particular, he may lie in all. Here then, see, dear Sir, that resentment against Badcock, not jealousy of White, drove the secret out; and that my intention was to protect White by confuting Badcock. Well, this strong declaration provoked new proofs, till I was staggered, alarmed, and to my sorrow in part convinced. In this agony of surprise and indignation at finding myself deceived by White, I wrote to him a bold letter, in which reproach was mingled with inquiry. He was at Gloucester, but sent me no answer while I remained at Oxford. I proceeded to London; and when a fortnight had elapsed from the date of my first letter, I wrote a second, which did produce an answer; and indeed it was a most guarded and a most offensive one, though consisting only of four or five lines. It began, not in his usual form of, Worthy and learned Sir, nor of Dear Sir, nor of Reverend Sir, nor Sir, but, Dr. White presents his respects, &c. This shocked me, for no one of my questions was answered. Then having a right to search into the business, I renewed my application to Badcock's friends, and from them, who were perfect strangers to me, I obtained part of the intelligence which Dr. White had not thought proper to give me.

This avowal was a sore subject to White's friends, and caused a coolness between Dr. Parr and Dr. Parsons ever after. Yet was it not unreasonable to expect that Parr should not claim his part, when

White's connection with Badcock was proclaimed? Nor can White ever be excused for his conduct to Parr on this occasion. He instantly changed his style. "My most worthy and learned friend" is altered for the cold address of "Reverend Sir;" "grateful" is laid aside; past obligations are forgotten, and Parr is even attacked for avowing the assistance he gave. An ingenuous and an honourable man would instantly have avowed his error, begged pardon for his weakness or his treachery, and made the best atonement in his power. White's conduct and feelings were exactly the reverse of repentance. He had even the audacity to attack; he assailed Parr for having betrayed him.

White's own statement, cautious and cold as it is, bears testimony to Parr's essential help in the composition of the Bampton Lectures. The particulars of his assistance are there reluctantly unfolded, and the correspondence tells the tale of the manner in which White and his friends managed the business. But let me remark, that until 1789, during the lapse of five years, there had been no demurs, no doubts. Parr's mind had been busily employed on Bellendenus, and the Warburtonian Tracts: and I believe I am not singular in the idea that, much more of the Bampton Lectures was written by Parr, than has been assigned to him; and that the internal evidence of many passages, proves it to moral demonstration.

In this controversy the name of Dr. Routh occurs for the first time in connection with that of Dr. Parr; and I am comforted and refreshed to gain a moment's repose, after the toil of developing White's dark and

odious manœuvres, under the shade and protection of his unimpeached and unsullied virtues. Dr. Routh and another friend were applied to by Parr, as scholars, who loved the University much, but truth more, and to them he confided his statements. So bitter, however, was the spirit raised against him, that at one time he intended to avenge himself by publishing an "Expostulation with Dr. White." But Mr. Burke stayed Parr's angry hand.

From the execution of this design (says Parr) I was dissuaded by the earnest and authoritative counsel of one of the wisest, worthiest, and noblest instruments whom the Deity, in the ordinary course of his providence, has vouchsafed to employ for the instruction and happiness of mankind. I do not assume this most serious language without a most serious sense of its truth and its propriety. No good man will charge that language with exaggeration or paradox, when it is applied, where I am sure he will join me in applying it, to Mr. Edmund Burke.

This Expostulation is now before me; and the sentences which I have copied from it are some of the purest examples of his impassioned style, when the gravity of the subject, and the homage due, even to violated friendship, had banished all rhetorical flourishes, and given his mind its proper and deep tone of thinking. Had Parr been concerned alone, White would have enjoyed his glory without diminution; but we cannot regret that he was detected, for his detection has placed the laurel on those brows which were uncrowned by patronage; and in the detection the University of Oxford has nothing to lament, in the exposure of an unworthy son, when she has a numerous host of the good and great whom she may justly love.

Whilst engaged in the service of White, Parr became acquainted with Dr. Uri. This learned man had been recommended as a great Oriental scholar by Sir James Yorke, while ambassador at the Hague, to the University of Oxford. The following facts relative to him are thus stated in "The Case of John Uri, a Native of Hungary, and D. D. in the University of Harderwick:"

Dr. Uri has been employed in the University of Oxford for more than twenty years in making a Catalogue of the Oriental MSS. in the Bodleian Library. His engagement having ceased, and with it his annual salary, all that remains for his future subsistence is a *hundred pounds*, which he received as a gratuity from the delegates of the press, at the conclusion of his employ.

He is now *sixty years* of age; has been absent from his own country about *forty years;* has no connection or friends remaining there, nor any prospect of future employment.

The subscriptions of the friends of humanity and literature are therefore earnestly requested to rescue a man of letters from want, and to secure him a decent provision for life, that he may not add the evils of poverty to the infirmities of old age.

In addition to this statement, Dr. Uri addressed a petition to the Members of the University, and states,

That your Petitioner was invited to this place from the University of Leyden, where he was engaged, under Professor Schultens, in a literary employment.

That he has been engaged here for twenty-two years, in which time he has catalogued and described 2,358 MSS. in nine Oriental languages, many of these MSS. containing several distinct Treatises, and four of these languages have been learned by him since his engagement.

That your Petitioner is now dismissed from his employment; that his annual salary of seventy-two guineas did not afford him

any savings; and that he has only a hundred pounds to subsist on, given to him by the Delegates of the Press, on his dismission.

If this was all he had to subsist on—if these were the only gains of such long-continued and learned labours, he had right not only to petition, but to complain, and even to demand a viaticum for his grey hairs. He was preserved by the exertions of Dr. Cyril Jackson, Dr. Routh, Dr. Smyth of Pembroke College, and Dr. Parr, but more especially of Mr. Kett of Trinity College, and Mr. Agutter of Mag dalen. One of the following Latin Letters was written to Dr. Parr, and the other about him.

Celeberrimo ac doctissimo viro, Domino Doctori Parr,
Joh. Uri, S. P. D.

Quanquam sæpe in animo habebam, vir Parissime, te per literas affari; nam comitas et commoditas morum tuorum hanc mihi licentiam indulgere videbatur: nihilominus tamen, nominis tui ac doctrinæ quodam quasi splendore deterritus, hactenus ἐχεμυθίαν Pythagoricam servavi. At nunc impium mihi sit nefasque tacere. Ita namque meritus de me immerente es, ut nullum officii studiique genus prætermittere posse videar, sine notâ hominis ingratissimi. Quippe, quum ex quodam de heroibus, qui pro salute meâ et incolumitate fortiter propugnant, fatalem fundi mei calamitatem cognovisses, adductus communi humanitatis officio, quo censetur interesse hominis, hominem beneficio afficere, egregium rebus meis adjumentum opemque attulisti. Quod si secus esset, meum tamen de singulari tuâ virtute judicium efficeret, ut te semper omni observantiâ complectendum haberem. Verum enimvero οὐκ ἀπόβλητ' ἐστὶ θεῶν ἐρικυδέα δῶρα. Grata igitur beneficii tui recordatio vivet in animo meo, donec inter σῖτον ἔδοντας oculis usurpabo γλυκερὸν φάος ἠελίοιο. Sed cogitata digne proloqui non possum; quicquid enim dico, minus est, quàm dicere volo. Utinam ergo superi eam mihi aliquando facultatem concederent, ut re potius possem, quàm

verbis, animum meum tui ardentissimum declarare. Hinc, etsi penia a nequitiæ arbitro bonæ mentis soror vocatur, mallem tamen ego, ut Porus eam *εἰς μακαρίαν* mitteret, angustumque larem meum eo beare vellet imbre, qui fluxit in sinum Danäes. *Ἀλλ' ἑτέρως ἐβάλοντο θεοὶ κακὰ μητιόωντες.* Proin unum illud abs te contendo, ut gratiam relatam fore sic interpretere, si eadem mihi et vivendi et de te cogitandi fuerit meta. Id autem me præstiturum sanctissime recipio. Vale.

Dat. Oxon. 1787, Mart. 25.

Venerande Domine Kett, *Feb.* 18.

Rogo te, perquam honorifice, ut Chirographum tuum, Domino Brookes tradendum, transmittere ad me digneris unà cum quatuor guineis.

Fons benevolentiæ et candoris Reverendus Agutter, postquam te convenerat, me quoque convenit.

Nimia festinatio, quâ *λείψανον χρύσου γένους* Doctor Parr nuper usus erat, præcidit mihi omnem opportunitatem vos alloquendi. Promiserat se sequenti die ante meridiem venturum. Itaque expectans eum lapides nigros super foco large reposui; tubos candidos, quibus fumus tabaci exhauriri solet, præparavi; sellas, remotâ paululum mensâ, ad ignem admovi: at eheu! non contigit mihi ipsum videre. Vale. Sum, et ero, nominis tui cultor perpetuus, J. Uri.

It has been mentioned in the foregoing pages that White corresponded with several learned foreign scholars, and Parr, in his exposition of the Professor's merits, alludes to some illustrious names. There is one letter of Michaelis of Göttingen; one of Reiske of Leipsic, in Latin; two of Mons^r de Villoison of Paris, in French; and two of M. Bjormstahl of Copenhagen, in French also. These letters are of great curiosity and interest, but they do not belong to my work. I shall, however, anticipate

the order of time, to bring in a portion of the correspondence of Dr. Parr himself with certain foreign scholars, and to take note of the publication of the Analogical Dictionary of Hoogeveen, senior.

Through Dr. Symmons an application of Dr. Ingenhousz, the celebrated naturalist, was made to Dr. Parr for his patronage of the posthumous works of Hoogeveen, senior. These works it would appear, from the following extract, were very numerous.

Amicorum optimo intimo
Janni Ingen Housz
S. P. D.
Janus Hoogeveen.

.....Consilium tuum, vir amicissime, de edendis defuncti patris pöematibus, præsertim de apologiâ pöetarum in lucem proferendâ, lubens equidem amplector: nonnulla tamen dantur impedimenta, animum hactenus suspensum tenentia, qualia sunt 1o operis illius prolixitas, quippe sexdecim mille, ducentos et quadraginta versus continentis, inque libros octodecim divisi; 2o, notæ marginales, per integrum opus dispersæ, cùm copiosiores, tum idiomate Græco expressæ; siquidem pleraque loca, ex Platone desumpta, ipsis verbis auctoris, adeoque Græce exhibentur. Neque tuto poterunt hæc omitti, neque levi tantum digito tangi; quoniam non solum ad interiorem carminis intellectum summopere conferunt, verum et consectationibus argumentorum Platonicorum majorem lucem plerumque adspergunt. Atqui vide sis, quantos sumptus exigeret illud opus, si prælo subjiceretur! Denique 3o, si materiam carminis ipsam contemplemur, solius delectationis gratia scriptum illud confiteberis, ideoque rarissimos emptores, saltem inter nostrates, alliceret: atque ita spes omnis impensas graviores recuperandi prorsus evanesceret.

At præter illam apologiam, omnibus numeris absolutam, aliud item opus postumum reliquit Auctor defunctus, Analogicum

nempe, et simul ordine alphabetico concinnatum, ultra septuaginta mille vocabula Græca exhibens, cujus specimen, a me perscriptum, paginâ leges proximâ, quo accuratiùs a te feratur judicium de naturâ et usu totius operis; quale, ni fallor, orbis eruditus etiamnum desiderat. Opus illud Analogicum totius linguæ Græcæ, itidem ad finem perductum, continet paginas septingentas et nonaginta quinque, quibus forma datur maxima, qualem barbaro nomine *foliant* vocamus. Importuna mors Auctoris præfatione operis, ab ipso elaborandâ, nos privavit. Præcipua interim ejus capita in limine operis inveni. Schedulæ inscripta, quorum exemplar his literis separatim adjectum deteges.

Tu, Amicorum ocelle, quem vero nomine editorem suarum Particularum vocat extinctus Auctor, Britannorum tuorum animos perscrutares, an pari enthusiasmo a te possint inflammari ad opus illud Analogicum simillimæ sortis beneficio e tenebris in lucem protrahendum.

* * * * *

Cæterum præter hæc duo opera, de quibus hactenus egi, in Musæo patris insuper inveni novas observationes, quibus suam de particulis L. Gr. doctrinam auxit, ut et varias animadversiones ad loca Fœderis Novi difficiliora. Priores separatim edi possent in gratiam eorum, quotquot opus ipsum possident. De posterioribus autem quid sis suasurus, proximæ literæ indicent.

Exemplar orationis meæ inauguralis, sub prælo jam sudantis, tibi reservabo. Vale!

Delphis, A. D. VIII Octobr. clɔlɔccxcii.

This letter of Janus Hoogeveen was sent to Dr. Parr, and he has himself given an account in the Bibliotheca P. App^{x}. 697. of the line he pursued. To this account, I subjoin the following letter to Dr. Huntingford, Bishop of Hereford, as a specimen of his zeal in the cause:

DEAR SIR,

I should not act consistently with the respect I have for your literary attainments, or with the opinion I entertain of your readiness to promote the cause of learning, if I were not to lay before you that intelligence, which I have communicated to many other scholars with considerable effect.

Hoogeveen, the editor of Vigerus, and author of a well-known book on the Greek Particles, has left behind him an Analogical Dictionary, the plan of which is entirely new, and is so formed as to shew the powers and mutual dependences of Greek words by the arrangement of their terminations. I have seen a specimen of it, and I entirely concur in opinion with Sir George Baker and Dr. Warton of Winchester, that it is worthy of the same encouragement which English scholars gave to Hoogeveen's work on the Particles. The manuscript is in the hands of his son; the publication depends on the number of subscribers in this country: the contents will fill a large quarto, and the price of the subscription is one guinea and a half.

I ought to state that some heads of houses and other respectable members of the University of Cambridge have promised to subscribe, and I have great satisfaction in adding that the Dean of Christ Church and the President of Magdalen College have authorized me to put down their names.

The great distance at which I live from Hampshire—the few intervals which I have from labour, and the numerous engagements which crowd upon me in my vacations hitherto, have prevented me from trespassing upon your hospitality. But I will not abandon all hope of refreshment from orthodox tobacco, and of instruction from your conversation upon Greek criticism at Winchester Lodge. I have the honour to be, dear Sir, your very faithful well wisher, and obedient servant,

SAMUEL PARR.

Hatton, near Warwick, March 6, 1793.

Of the success of this publication I can speak from no authority. Added to that satisfaction which Parr always derived from doing good, he re-

ceived a copy of verses, the grateful effusion of the younger Hoogeveen, of which I shall quote a few.

Viro plurimum Reverendo
PARRIO
S. P. D.
Janus Hoogeveen.

Palladis Argivæ cultor celeberrime, PARRI;
Grande decus sacri præsidiumque gregis.
Nos intermedium mare separat, optime PARRI!

* * * * * *

Obsequor, ut votum quantocius exequar, estque
Summa mihi summo laus placuisse viro.
Hæc tua si scirent manes benefacta Paterni,
Conciperent tacito gaudia quanta seni!
Acturi meritas gratas ferrentur ab urnâ
Patris, in amplexus proruerentque tuos!

* * * * * *

Non quantas debet, sed quas habet, optime Parri,
Defuncto grates pro patre natus agit.
Æternis meritis summo devincta Patrono
Serviet æternum mens tibi grata. Vale!

Delphis, A. D. v Maii clɔlɔccxciii.

I shall dismiss Dr. Parr's foreign correspondence for the present, after the insertion of one letter from Professor Bekker, who had seen him in England, and one from Professor Hermann of Leipsic. I understand that there were letters of the great Heyne in the collection. They are not to be found.

Samueli Parrio, S. P. D. Immanuel Bekkerus.

Indignari se arbitrabar, vir venerande, silentii mei diuturnitatem, qui post singularia tua in me officia annum totum sine

ulla litterula observantiæ et amoris teste prætermisissem. Tu vero ne indignare. Neque enim defuit mihi, quem deesse nefas sit, animus dierum apud te jucundissimè actorum cum pietate et desiderio memor, virtutumque tuarum ipso aspectu et brevissimo usu manifestarum admirator: defuit otium et tranquillitas. Cùm enim redux incidissem in tempora publice privatimque gravissima, quæ me ad vos rejecissent, si ullus in museis vestris homini peregrino locus pateret, feci quod reliquum esse videbam, ut mente a rerum externarum tædio avocata, et in bonarum artium studiis defixa temperarem a querelarum frustra nec tuto jactandarum impotentia, quæ ægritudinem nec levaret, et cum amicis meis communicaret. Id consilium an cum aliquo ad litteras fructu ceperim, tu existimabis, quando Thucydides meus et oratorum Atticorum volumen primum ad te deferentur; id quod spero hac æstate fieri posse. Existimabis autem humanius quam severius, neque ab homine male vexato rerumque suarum jamdudum pertæso, eam posces operis absolutionem et perfectionem, quam assequi soleat animus, liber, erectus, curis invictus, talis denique qualem tuum cognovi.

Vale, vir præstantissime, et me, ut amabas, ama.

Scrib. Berolini, A. D. 21 Julii, a. 1821.

Samueli Parrio, viro summè reverendo, S. D.
Godfredus Hermannus.

Magnopere gavisus sum, Parri, vir summè reverende, quùm quod prius a Barkero acceperam, a Gesenio, qui te valde laudat, et Bohtio confirmatum vidi, bene te mihi velle, et in multis rebus mecum consentire. Non potest enim mihi non esse gratissimum, amicum et consentientem habere virum, quem omnes in litteris antiquis primarium esse fatentur. Accepit autem quasi cumulus gaudio meo, quùm cognovi consentire nos etiam aliis in rebus, quàm in solis litteris. Nam quùm tu, ut ex Gesenio audivi, Reginæ partes in infelici illa lite acerrimè tuereris, suas velim me quoque, quum etiam hic duæ essent factiones, plerisque culpantibus Reginam, paucis defendentibus, in his fuisse, qui eam strenuè defenderent. Itaque quod his litteris adjeci exemplum Trachiniarum, si exiguam a se ipso habet, aliquam velim ab animo meo commendationem habere, qui tibi etiam ob illam consensionem deditissimus est. Vale. D. Lipsiæ d. xix. Maii a CIↃIↃCCCXXII.

CHAPTER V.

Tracts of Warburton and a Warbutonian.

The labours attendant on the care of his pupils and his parish, were insufficient to satisfy the craving activity of his mind. Bellenden was hardly ushered from the press, ere he began to meditate another attack; and no doubt, some of the materials for the fresh warfare were collected before the second preface saw the light.

At Colchester, even part of these materials appear to have been in preparation. Parr, at this time, engaged in correspondence with Mr. Potter,* then about to publish his Euripides; and who, in one of his letters, writes thus:

I understood you that you wished to see Lowth's letter and Brown's, I should not else have sent them; they will serve to light your pipes, if you are not afraid they will give your tobacco a brimstone smell. I the more readily recommend Leland to this use, as you think it true Virginian. I am, dear Sir, your most obliged and obedient servant,

Scarning, April 4, 1778. R. Potter.

* Mr. Potter, well known in the learned world as the translator of the Greek tragedies, was much indebted to Parr for critical and literary aid. There is a large correspondence.

During his abode at Norwich, Parr had caused a tract, said to be written by Dr. Hurd, Bishop of Worcester, entitled, "The Delicacy of Friendship, a 7th Dissertation, addressed to the Author of the 6th, printed 1755," to be copied in MS. as the printed work was seldom to be found. The copy was superscribed thus:

Transcribed at Norwich in 1779, by Shelford and Kett, Norwich boys of great worth, who are now dead. Kett died in 1780, and Shelford in 1781, much esteemed by their friend and master, Samuel Parr.

This 7th Dissertation is so styled, because Dr. Jortin had published "Six Dissertations on different subjects;" in the 6th of which, he had criticised some opinions of Dr. Warburton. The "Delicacy of Friendship," therefore, was an ironical attack on Jortin, and as it was anonymous, was warmly reprobated by Dr. Lowth, and most learned men of the day. Whether Parr had secured it as a curiosity, or an instrument of annoyance, is unknown; certain it is, that soon after Dr. Hurd was his Diocesan, he converted it to the latter purpose. In 1788, Bishop Hurd published a new edition of Bishop Warburton's Works, leaving out certain juvenile tracts and translations, which were probably thought unworthy of the matured talents of this great man; and, instead of "a Life," a note was added, promising one to the purchasers of the Works. Parr immediately laid hold of these omissions, as pretences for warfare.

It appears from his correspondence, that, when Henry Homer was at Hatton in the summer of

1787, Parr shewed him the Warburtonian Tracts, which he had then determined to republish. In March 1788, in a letter to Homer he says,

I desire you would find some opportunity of looking into Hurd's works, and of seeing whether his Letter to Leland, and the Delicacy of Friendship are in them; I think not. I shall bring some papers with me to London, connected with this question.

In London then, probably, these matters were settled; for, in a letter dated October 1788, Parr says to Homer:

I have this day committed to the coach at Stratford, the manuscript; it is in a state so perfect, that no addition will be made, and all that is wanting is a reference, which Bennet is to send me, to Hallifax's Sermons; and one correction, which you can easily make in the second preface, and which I desire you to make, before the manuscript goes to press, in the beginning of a paragraph which runs, "Leland and Jortin are now placed;" but which, when corrected, should run, "Leland and Jortin now repose in the sanctuary of the grave, and are placed," &c. This is an easy short alteration. I desire you to read it over with great care, and tell me your opinion; and I cannot help saying again and again, for I think it a fine composition in satire, learning, and eloquence.

Homer answers November 4th:

DEAR DOCTOR,

I received yours to day, but have not time to answer a syllable of it further than to say, that as far as my little judgment goes, no one can think higher of your composition than I do. I am only afraid it will be overloaded with notes and references; which, you must allow, diminishes the pleasure of reading a fine composed text. I have just been at Reed's near six o'clock. You set out with two false facts; the following is the extract: "It is mentioned that Sir John Hawkins printed the Marmor Norf. in his edition of Johnson's works." This is not a fact. It is not inserted in that edition: but it is in a sup-

plemental volume, with which Sir J. had nothing to do. The first piece published of Johnson's was not the translation of *Lobo's Voyage*, but of Pope's Messiah. Warburton wrote four prefaces himself, viz. to Clarissa, to Towne's Philosophers, to his Examination of Sherlock's Sermons, to Mrs. Cockburn's Remarks on Rutherford's Book on Virtue. Pray return the short preface and Horace soon to Smith's. Yours, truly,

Friday. H. HOMER.

In the following letters Parr gives his directions and his opinions to Homer in the same style, as we have already seen in the editing of Bellendenus. Homer, however, was not so submissive; he was now employed in the Variorum Edit. of Horace, which was, after his death, edited by Dr. Combe; and the correspondence is therefore naturally intermingled with remarks on his own concern, as well as his correction of the Warburtonian publication.

It will all be ready, says Parr, I suppose by Christmas. Having a great opinion of Reed's judgment and secrecy, I desire him to look it over, though not before printing, as he may not be returned from Cambridge. You will roast me alive at Emanuel; I shall be excommunicated at Lambeth, and anathematized by half the bishops, and abused in the Critical Review. Copies must be given to Reed and Steevens, but unbound to Steevens. No, no; they shall both be bound. Steevens will envy me my severity.

DEAR HOMER, *Nov.* 7, 1788.

Your admonitions and hints are judicious and reasonable; and in your allusion to the sword of Brutus you rise even to eloquence. Consider, however, that we are aiming at the breast of a strong man; that he has powerful auxiliaries, and is himself armed in a coat of mail. I will therefore give no further polish to my steel than is necessary to sharpen it and

make the blow sure. I wish it to be speedy, and in truth, Homer, I want expression to tell you how sincerely and painfully I am solicitous to do the business soon. We have, indeed, a faithful, wise, and active ally in Mr. R. whose judgment upon the merits of the composition confirms my very unusual fondness for it. But you say nothing of your own:—work away, work away. Fib is too common a word in the note; suppose you correct it thus, Rhetorical Hyperbole. These are trifles,—true; but I want to avoid blackguard words. Work away. I have written to Lord John, but have had no answer. *Yesterday*, 4th Nov., I celebrated in Tokay and Champagne, and with loyal toasts; that is, patriotic, at the house of Mr. West, a good Foxite. Mr. Coke has sent me twenty guineas for Dr. Browne's* family; a noble Foxite, is he not? Who is to correct the press, the first sheet; who is to take care of the Greek? I never felt such impatience; indeed, I will keep my thoughts and time disengaged to prevent additions, and to forward the return of proof sheets. Give me information—give me encouragement—give me at least consolation: as for instance, how many pages are working off at a time, and when it is likely to be finished. I hope, I hope, I hope by Christmas day. At least the preface and dedication and testimonia auctorum.

In a letter dated Nov. 20th, 1788, Parr says,

I was very glad to find that Reed does not approve of Bishop Smooth's attack, which for a time was very popular, so I say in the text to the Preface, and after the word "popular," I wish you to insert in the text, "but I cannot add the victorious antagonist." I thought it better to add something to the quotation, and I have omitted some parts, to which I do not assent quite; for Warburton, though proud and impatient, had a great store of cheerfulness and good nature in private life; and when I consider how long he was neglected, and how much he was abused, I by no means wonder at the violence of

* Dr. (the celebrated John) Browne, for whose family, left destitute by his death, Parr collected a considerable sum of money.

his writings; which, however, I am not concerned to vindicate. It will be curious to see how Master Hurd will get off upon this ticklish subject; because he stands engaged to vindicate the Bishop's candour and benevolence; and my republication will make his task ten times more difficult. You see clearly that I love and respect Warburton, though I sometimes lay it on pretty heavily. He was worth a thousand Hurds, and five hundred Hallifaxes, and a hundred Popes. Shew Reed the note. Stop at "disregarded," and put six asterisks to shew that something is omitted. I do not choose in this work even to quote anything in favour of Sidney or Harrington, or even Hoadley, though I have read them often, and am an advocate for the rights of mankind.

When the work was nearly printed off, Parr, with his usual fastidiousness, was continually making alterations; and writes thus to Homer on his agreeing to cancel a portion of the work already printed.

Peace be to the manes of him who invented the art of cancelling. He would have been a better lawyer than Pepper Arden, and a greater *orator than Billy Pitt*. Peace, therefore, everlasting peace be to his manes; and blessed be all those who, like you, cultivate his art! Why, Homer, my stomach before had qualms and twiches, such as a sour crab would have produced in a stomach overloaded with rich mince-pies; but I now feel at once the strong savour of a French ragout, and the wholesome solidity of English roast beef. In plain truth, I am all over in love with myself when I read these dear and precious cancelled pages; and were you sitting by me, you might harangue for half an hour without one word of contradiction, or one look of disdain, upon the science of boiling eggs and the luxuries of Warwickshire pork-pies. You are a right good fellow, for you have printed without one mistake; so that great and glorious is the art of cancelling. I'faith, my Master Homer, there are four or five pages, and I will stake my chance of a bishopric upon the credit of them, compared with the writers I have so eloquently praised; yet I am such a restless, querulous, surly sort of critic, that I

have found room to make perfection more perfect, and so you will say when you read the alterations. For "luminous and appropriate imagery of Bishop Taylor," read, "the crowded, yet clear and luminous galaxies of imagery diffused through the works of Bishop Taylor."

In another letter he says,

I am now going to part with my dear, darling favourite, beloved, admired, corrected, improved, perfected, cancelled sheet; and, old Homer, you have got more credit by your patience and care in this sheet, than by all the rest of your typographical assiduity; and so rejoice with me, and praise with me, and bless with me, the noble art of cancelling. It is a glorious art, and I will proclaim its praises to all scholars, and all critics.....

I am glad my plague and your plagues are at an end, or at least your's will be when this letter is complied with. Do not let Steevens have a copy before Monday, and make a friend of him if you can. Tell me some news? I am delighted with the Prince's Letter to Pitt. I suppose Steevens is against the Regent, and pleasant it will be to hear Farmer, the redoubted Tory, defending these republican attacks upon the Crown. Well, I never liked him or trusted him, and he is not behind-hand with me, whom he hates, distrusts, and fears. I suppose the Regent will be created this week. I am sorry to find the City Address of Bankers so numerous and respectable. You have not told me, nor any body else, how Markham came to vote with Pitt. Is he gone over to Pitt quite? I hope not. I have told Lord John Townshend about the Household; and hinted that it might be Lord Mansfield's opinion. But surely the Prince must have influence from his own Household to counterbalance the Queen's.

Monday night, Jan. 26, 1789.

The following letters exhibit the editor and the corrector of the press in new characters. The Coalition had opened the door to Parr's ambition; but the defeat of the Coalition so quickly closed it again, that there was only room left for attaching

himself to his party by writing; there being no prospect of any other course of action, that would raise him to preferment. But in Nov. 1788, the King's health was so disturbed, as to render a provision for carrying on the business of the executive part of the Government immediately necessary. On Dec. 16th, 1788, Homer thus writes:

DEAR DOCTOR,

It was my intention yesterday to have sent an extract from the Review on Dr. Browne's Letter to Lowth, which Mr. Reed thought very apposite, and which he himself transcribed, but unfortunately both that and a proof of the *second* sheet of the *Delicacy* were lost in the streets by the young Devil, who had the custody of them, with some other things for me. I was thrice at the *Browns'* from Portland Street (where I now am at Jones's), and in order to be satisfied of the truth of this accident, went down thither in a coach at half past ten at night. My name is on both the parcels. They may fall into the hands of an orange-woman, or they *may* alight upon one of the penetration of G. Steevens.

The unremitted attention I have paid to your concerns for a very long period, indeed would, I was in hopes, have procured a more favourable interpretation to many of my letters than what you have seemed disposed to put upon them. My sensations at the time I addressed you about Livy were, if there is any sincerity in man, couched in a very different meaning from those of high toned. They were meant rather in the style of the supplicant; but I cannot suppress the emotions which I feel upon this occasion; and shall be free to tell you, that I hope I never shall have a heart that will not upon every occasion be ready to return a grateful acknowledgment for any favour conferred; but at the same time, I trust it will always revolt at the idea of an abject prostration at the feet of any man. I only expressed my wishes that you had thrown out a hint before. I must necessarily be put to great inconvenience by making any alteration. I by no means expected you would give more than a cursory glance over the notes, and from the repeated

professions of your friendship to me, I had every reason to believe you would long ago. In the spring I was shy of giving you any trouble, as you complained of hurry from other quarters. Still, I believe you were made very sensible of my uneasiness both from Combe and Okeover, as well as from my own feelings, which I could not totally suppress.

However, had you read the whole through eight or ten times I do not believe you would have expended anything like the time which I have devoted to your English publication alone. The blunders which you have mentioned are capital ones indeed. You have my thanks for them now; but that gratitude would have been much enhanced by a more early communication. I have just received your letter in the city, and shall examine the copy when I get home.

I am sorry you have had occasion to send up a fresh copy of what was already in possession. For the *first*, Reed and the printer were in fault, viz., for the omitted paragraph at the beginning of the preface, as it is in the original MS. I interrogated Warren to-day, and accused him of being doubly culpable in this respect. In the *first* place, neither he or Brown could possibly have revised the copy fairly. In the *second* place, I suspect, they sent only to the end of the dedication to Mr. Reed; and as the beginning of the preface made the *last* leaf of the dedication *second* sheet, and consequently might comprise the *prima* of the following sheet of the preface, it might possibly be kept back; otherwise it is almost impossible it should have escaped both *printers* and Reed with the MS. before them. This is only conjecture, but I think it highly plausible.

Now, then, with regard to the Critical Review. As that extract came up a long while ago, and was accompanied with several other matters relating to dedication and preface (which had been cut off and sent to the printers), it by chance escaped me, having lain by so very long; however, I assure you, I found it the very evening I sent you word that it had not been received. I have not seen the papers of to-day or yesterday; but hear there was warm work in the House of Lords yesterday, and that both the Dukes of York and Gloucester spoke.

I met Mr. Cracherode at Jones's yesterday, who paid for a

proof of your head, and told Jones it was well worth one guinea, that it was a shame to go for half one. From him I learned, that it was expected Fox would to-day move the previous question, and that it was thought Pitt would pin him down to the question of *right*, which Mr. C. thinks had better have been kept back. It has been rumoured by some, that Pitt would go back to the bar; but Mr. C. told me (so infatuated are they) that many merchants of London were ready to subscribe £50,000 in case he were turned out; and yet what is he but a mixture of republicanism and aristocraticism?

As your proofs only arrived yesterday, it will be impossible for them to be returned till to-morrow, as they were not corrected till late this morning. If there should be much overrunning, I am afraid you must wait another day. All I can say is, that I always prepare the corrections faster than I have occasion to do, or they can execute them. Your print, as to likeness in *particular*, and as to finishing, is here admired by every one: if the features are not harsh enough, the *painter*, not the *engraver*, is here culpable. Would you have your three or four sent into Warwickshire? As to a dozen copies, I suppose there can be no objection; but I have made such a bargain as I trust will tend to your greater emolument by waiting the event of the sale, rather than receive any stipulated sum,

Yours truly, H. HOMER.

London, Dec. 16, 1788.

P. S. You have a specimen of the *finished* proof in the *first* sheet of the dedication now by you. The Greek and notes are all too small, but from a calculation first made, it was thought not safe to risk a larger type for *one volume*. I thought your matter would have been more, and as it turns out it might have been extended; but booksellers do not like great risks in paper, &c. On Sunday night, I took it into my head to turn over some of the returned proofs from you, and to compare them with the MS. I see that there are often little omissions, but at the same time, I must say, that the MS. is very faulty in many *commas*, &c. which you have noticed. Your own last correction made, is διέφορε with an omicron.

The following letter, without a date, was written

sometime in January, by Parr, to the Rev. Henry Homer.

DEAR HOMER,

I thank you for the squibs, which are preciously dull and impudent. You see that, with all their eagerness to find some fault with me, they cannot find me guilty of a greater sin than smoaking; and smoaking is no reproach upon my learning, taste, manners, or morals. Pitt, for a time, will triumph with his majority. But his real character is coming out more and more, and his popularity will not long survive his power.

I must see the cancelled sheet once more; to this, I do not mean to add many words. I find I must alter the beginning of a paragraph, because I now see that three succeeding paragraphs begin with infinitive moods. I did take it for granted, and always shall take it for granted, that you allow me one day after receiving a fiat, and I have told you so before, and therefore I sent a correction to Brown's on Friday. The word task, must be altered, as it occurs in the preceding page. I am particularly anxious to have this cancelled sheet very perfect, and, indeed I never yet wrote any thing to satisfy myself. But there is time before us, and I shall keep the cancelled sheet two days, to prevent further trouble and vexation to you and myself.

I read that the London vote of thanks is now signed by two thousand people. But as the Prince will be firm, he will soon conquer all these addresses. He acts with great delicacy and dignity, which, in the long run, will be of solid and signal service to him. I have now no impatience about the book, and I would by no means have it come out till the Regency is actually conveyed to the Prince. It is very fortunate for me that Bishop Hurd voted against his pupil, and, indeed, the Prince will now be able to distinguish between friends and foes. It will be a very able Ministry, and Pitt in opposition is not worth a rush. There must be a new Parliament; in obtaining which, prodigious sums of money must be spent by the Prince and his friends. I wish you would find out how Markham came to vote for Pitt. I think the restrictions will not be carried by so great a majority. I am glad the royal treasures will be no longer employed in parliamentary and electioneering cabals. This is

of great consequence. "Stately array" I shall correct, but I have not made up my mind as to the beginning of the sentence, which, being a very good one, must not be left mutilated.

My cold is a little better, and I have ventured to ride out—but I am very much afraid of my horse, whose starts, and sudden stops, are absolutely dangerous, and even my boys say so. I return the Horace, which is very correct. I doubt about *bis;* should it be *hic* or *bis?* I suspect *bis.* But you must look, for I cannot construe it. I now thank you finally and cordially for your trouble about my book; and I think that a few splendid quotations will be of use to the sale, if you can get them inserted in the Foxite papers, especially the praises upon Hurd's style, and Jortin's character, which is executed well, and will be popular; but I do not wish anything severe to get into the newspapers; and my friends must make up a few defensive paragraphs for the editor. I think Steevens might be allowed to do this; but pray stop him from quoting anything severe, and tell me what he says of the composition. I must give away two more copies. But more of this hereafter. I have got two hundred and forty-five pounds for the Browns, and this is more than Pittite parsons do.

Pray call on Mr. Hall, and settle about my arrears at the Whig Club. If there be a difficulty to get in the text, the inclosed alteration will be again transcribed and sent up to you. I will shorten one of the notes, and I suppose, that a note is more manageable in printing. Send me an answer to this query before I give final directions. The alteration will probably run thus, and requires little breaks or lines in the first sentence—"I am unwilling to shock your Lordship's delicacy by saying *all* that might be said with truth——upon your romantic freaks of affectation, or caprice, in the choice of your subjects—upon the stately array or the grotesque machinery of your arguments—upon the rambling digressions and intricate labyrinths into which we are drawn by your notes—upon the vicious, as well as the more chaste and more happy embellishments of your style; I therefore pass on to those unsparing"——all in italics.

The following letter is from the same to the same.

I thank you for your letter. There is war at Warwick; and Parson Weale, the only writer of the enemy, has been extremely abusive to me for saying that Mr. Greville would be a candidate. The case is this. When Lord Warwick's candidates came, the mayor put out a hand-bill saying he had a letter from London, which authorised him to declare that Greville would not stand. Frightened at this, I put out a hand-bill to inquire from whom the letter came, and to say, that Greville had written to Ladbroke upon the 6th, that he would come. This produced the name of Lord Warwick, and here it rested till Saturday. Then I had a letter from Greville, declaring he would come, which fact I published with my name. As the quotation was very short, I was charged with concealing and interpolating. I instantly with my name produced a fuller quotation, repeated my assertion, and trounced the anonymous hand-bill writer. He replied, but so vulgarly and nonsensically, that it was not worth while to say any more. We have now got a printed address from Greville, which justifies me and convicts Lord ——— of the lie direct; and such a fact we shall turn to account. I have been abused for something Bartlam wrote; and, as he writes well, I was suspected. Bartlam has rejoined vigorously. We have beat them about two other facts, and so fully, that they deny having said at all what they absolutely did say in a hand-bill; but our proofs were too strong for equivocation, and so they were obliged to lie. Greville's address bears hard upon the Castle, and Lord ———— lie has separated the brothers. Ask no questions at present about my Junius?* It is far better than anything in my predecessor Junius: and far better than my dedication. It will not be published, as I must not be an author about elections. But you shall see it, and, if it is printed, there will be a job for Poppin's Court. But mind this; if it is printed there, you

* Referring to the letter to Lord W———, which was given to Mr. Ladbroke, who had it printed for circulation among his friends.

must be upon the spot the whole time to see it composed and printed off, and to prevent surreptitious copies; and your reward will be a copy—and a great reward, let me tell you. Well, I have written to Lord Dartmouth about Combe, and Lord John has got him a great number of votes, for which he must call and thank him, as it is done out of friendship to me. I wish my friends would consider, that I cannot be always applying for them, and that they may chance to ask my assistance when I have been applying for something else the week before. However, all is done for Combe I could do, and I heartily wish him success, for he is a sincere friend; which word brings to mind a cold, delicate, Hurdian letter from Bennet, about the book. I have sent him the devil of an answer. As to a new edition, I forbid it for the present, and shall alter and add, and shall thank Steevens for any kind of communication. I suppose it will go hard with me in the Gentleman's Magazine. But I don't care; and if Nichols is very bad he shall suffer for it. Be assured, Homer, that I treasure up what you say about Reed, and will do my best to serve him when there is a proper opportunity. This you will consider as a promise; but I cannot answer for the event, and I must reserve to myself the right of settling the time.

The King is very little better, as I know upon good authority. Let us praise Ireland. This is a glorious trial. Bennet has found out Steevens, and in his courtly way, complains. But he funnily says, the style is like Seale's, and Seale* will get into a scrape with the Archbishop, whereat I rejoice. My reasons are to be found in Hurd's pamphlets, and I shall give no other. Personal reasons are out of the question. I hope Reed will do something in a Magazine, and I shall be glad of Steevens's strong faulchion, to repel the army of Nichols. But never mind abuse; I have spoken the truth; and, if not, let them convict me, for I have laid all the evidence open. Take care to resist the new edition at present. I dare say this impression

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* Dr. Seale was the Archbishop's domestic chaplain, but left Lambeth on some petty pique, of which he gives an account to Parr in his correspondence.

will go off in a year. What says Dr. Hurd himself? make me a good budget of anecdotes. Bennet says, Farmer will be pleased at finding himself not only spared, but praised. I have been a generous enemy to him always, and so I am to every body, even to Hurd. Why now, the sneer in Cadell's shop is of piece with the rest. There is no sense, Homer, in these sneers.* Do you think there is? for I swear that I find none. Bartlam says, they are full of roguery; a naughty word, not fit to be used about Bishops; though I think three out of five most desperate knaves, and this is a pretty word; but for heaven's sake, don't say so to Steevens, for Bartlam says it would be paragraphed.

Did you ever read anything so insolent and venomous as Hurd's two pamphlets? I wish Seale would try to defend him. By the way, Bennet says, he told me, Lord W. would leave us at the push—a concession for which both the tutor and pupil have been trounced, as I say. I suppose at Cambridge they are all in arms against me. Let them fear me, and I care not how they abuse me. I wish for testimonia; where are Tyrwhitt's? I wish to encourage an idea, that in the Horace, Master Hurd will be oiled and perstringed most confoundedly. I think Steevens would work this very well,

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* A certain Bishop, on hearing the sermons of Dr. W. (now Bishop of L.) extolled, replied, "Sir, he may do well at Cambridge, but not in London. We know there is nothing at all in him." And again, when the same learned writer's Reply to Gibbon was commended, answered with the following sneer: "But do you think his Defence of Christianity would have been the worse, had he appeared a little more in earnest about it?"

A few years ago the Bishop of W. hearing a bookseller speak with satisfaction of the rapid sale of some new edition of Shakspeare, replied, with one of his customary sneers; "These trifling fellows know nothing of our great dramatic poet's manner. When the public recover their senses, Warburton's comment will be the only one held in esteem." Surely, says a correspondent, the antient coalition of priest and prophet, in this instance, has not been hitherto ascertained.

and frighten Hurd devilishly. Perhaps, too, it may be done, if I am well in health, and ill in humour. Mind, your edition will be worth a guinea more if you publish Jason de Nores; and we must get Colman's translation for the sake of two or three judicious transpositions in the text. Mind, I think of nothing now but Warwick politics. But send me all news worth hearing. Barrington has been prating. He is a —— ——; but as he don't write he must escape.—Friday, Feb. 20, 1789.

The work was published early in the year 1789, under the title "Tracts by Warburton, and a Warburtonian, not admitted into the collections of their respective works." Before the Tracts of Warburton is a short Preface of the Editor; before the Tracts by a Warburtonian, a Dedication and a Preface. Had the Prefaces been prefixed to the respective works alone, some obligation might have been owed by the Republic of Letters to the exertions of Dr. Parr. "They who mark, with philosophic precision, the progress of the human understanding," must thank him for giving them an opportunity of "comparing the better productions of Warburton's pen with the worse;" nor was it unworthy of his love of ingenuousness and fairness in literary controversy, to unscreen a critic who anonymously employed an "offensive spirit of contempt for the purpose of degrading" a learned writer. The Preface, however, has a better claim on our gratitude than any it can derive from the unveiling of dark manœuvres, or the indignation it expresses against "the foul arts of detraction so often practised by men of letters." The characters of Warburton, and Leland, and Jortin, can never be

read without delight. "He that speaks of them without approbation must renounce his pretensions to impartiality of taste, to exactness of discrimination, or delicacy of feeling."

The Preface is written in a more dignified tone of mind, and with a better spirit than the Dedication, which is directed as a death-blow at Bishop Hurd's literary reputation; and certainly its venom, its sly aims, its dexterous thrusts, as well as its furious blows, are unparalleled. Rarely does the Editor use "the lighter missive weapons of the controversial armoury—rarely does he pelt his adversary with trim urbanity or oblique insinuation." When he does, it is only to gain time, and to take breath to gather up his might, and to assail with recruited vigour. Wheresoever such powers are employed for any purpose, it will naturally be asked why were they so employed?

I am fearful that a candid perusal of the Dedication will generate the same opinion in every reader of sense and virtue. Why should so learned a man as Dr. Parr attack so venerable and so respectable a man as Dr. Hurd in this bitter manner? What could be his motives? What motives could justify such an attack?

In order that we may be just, let us briefly survey the Dedication with these views, and, at the same time, take a glance at some of Dr. Parr's deliberate writings hitherto unpublished, so as to judge whether the motive was general or personal, of remote or recent date; and, finally, whether he was not, after all, hurried away by one of those torrents

of passion, of which there are too many instances in *his* life, as in the lives of us all. For, although his talents were enlisted on the side of virtue, our friend was sometimes deceived—he was often duped—and he was always jealous of attention, and indignant at neglect. The sounding name, too, of independence, and still more, his apprehension of apostacy, swerving, and inconsistency, were sure to open the sluices of his resentment. Now I think a gleam of light illumines the subject if we advert to the patronage of the Doctor by Bishop Lowth, who was one of the antagonists of the Warburtonian school. By the Bishop's patronage Dr. Parr was promoted to a Prebend of St. Paul's; by other patronage he was made Curate of Hatton, and thus Bishop Hurd became the Diocesan of Dr. Parr.

Dr. Parr went to Hartlebury necessarily on this occasion. He was treated coldly: not even a repast was offered to him. This slight roused his indignation. He probably, during the effervescence of his rage, recollected the "Delicacy of Friendship," which he had caused to be copied at Norwich, and perhaps he did not forget the sneer concerning the long vernacular Sermons at Whitehall; and his fancy, under such influence, would naturally conjure up a phantom in the shape of Bishop Hurd, which had marched across the high road of his interests, and blighted the prospects of his preferment.

From a comparison of Dr. Parr's opinion of Bishop Hurd, at the time he edited the Warburtonian tracts, with his former opinion, my theory

will receive support and justification. On the Constitution of Parliaments, and the real foundation of the English Constitution, in the Notes on Rapin, he calls Bishop Hurd's a more decisive opinion than De Lolme's, p. 13. He speaks of Bishop Hurd's "acute reflection." He quotes, then, nearly two close sheets of the Dialogues, p. 16. He quotes Hurd's authority as supreme on the limitation of feudal authority, as introduced by the Conqueror. And again, p. 18. Bishop Hurd elucidates Hume, p. 23. Bishop Hurd happily reconciles some contradictions of opinion about the feudal system, p. 35.

Concerning the Tudors, Hurd is the first authority quoted, p. 29.

The various and uncommon causes of Henry the Eighth's power are most profoundly traced and most exactly described by Bishop Hurd.

In p. 32 is the following general character:

The Dialogues of Hurd on the reign of Elizabeth are written with great delicacy of sentiment, and the most finished elegance of style. They abound with curious remarks on the personal qualities of the Princess, and the peculiar manners of her times; but they throw a very feeble light on the political history of her government; they are not marked by the strong features of sagacity and of impartiality, which distinguish the investigation of Hume.

James's notions of prerogative ably discussed by Hurd, p. 33. Sensible observations of Hurd to be impressed on the mind of the reader, p. 35. P. 54, Hurd quoted for producing a striking coincidence of sentiment in his letter "On the marks of Imitation," in his Horace, vol. II. p. 35.

I think myself justified in thus comparing Dr. Parr with himself at two different periods, by the authority of an unpublished work. He had evidently some doubt of Dr. Hurd when he got the Delicacy of Friendship copied at Norwich in 1781. He had evidently no dislike to Dr. Hurd when he wrote the Notes to Rapin in 1783; and yet when he came to reside at Hatton he writes the bitter satire contained in the edition of the Warburtonian Tracts, with a gorgeous phrase of qualified approbation tacked to it occasionally; but only so tacked when he had rent asunder the whole texture of the Bishop's literary character. Be it remembered, likewise, that Hurd had, at this time, kept back his Life of Warburton. Parr, therefore, had no pretence for attack on the particular ground that his patron, Bishop Lowth, had been abused by faint praise, however he might have deemed himself bound to him by general partizanship.

Had the Life of Warburton been published, Parr would have had some reason for vindicating the character of his Patron from the contemptuous expressions and sneers of Hurd, who says,

> His reputation as a writer was raised chiefly on his Hebrew literature, as displayed in those two works, his Latin Lectures on Hebrew Poetry, and his English Version of the Prophet Isaiah. The former is well and elegantly composed, but in a vein of criticism not above the common; the latter, I think, is chiefly valuable, as it shows how little is to be expected from Dr. Kennicot's Work, and from a new translation of the Bible for public use.

There is here some ground for complaint; but, perhaps, he would have been still less spared had

his remarks on Archbishop Secker come under the observation and the lash of Parr. To talk of "the narrow walk of literature, he most affected that of criticising the Hebrew text," &c., when applied to such a man as Secker, is surely monstrous; and Parr, after the publication of the Life, often exclaimed, that "all Scholars would now justify him." Doubtless he would have been more justified had he waited for the publication of the Discourse, and still more had Hurd then unfolded his Warburtonian letters. Yet even then, should I have exclaimed to him, et nomen pacis dulce est, et res ipsa salutaris. Beautiful and excellent are these compositions; yet I must be allowed to wish that the Dedication, at least, had never been written!

The Tracts, it is true, were scarce; but they elucidated no important points of controversy nor of character. Warburton's Tracts are confessedly of no importance towards substantiating his fame; neither, as the compositions of a young man, do they lessen his reputation. As means of comparison they may be of some curiosity; but they are neither very learned nor very instructive.

The Delicacy of Friendship, published without a name, was not ingenuously ushered into the world; and as it was also an instrument of flattery to a patron, and as its tendency was to decry that patron's antagonist, it was not very creditable to the moral sense of the writer. But surely, with these exceptions, there is little mischief done by it. Jortin's character, though sneered at, could not be

laughed down, even if ridicule were allowed to be the test of truth ; and Lowth and Brown had sufficiently chastised these sneers by their reprobation. But, though they spoke out, Warburton was not convinced by their arguments or expostulations, and hugged with the fondness of a father this sycophant production.

Dr. Parr, by a thousand delicate hints, insinuates the undermining of other men's fame, and sneering at their merits. Prove the fact, and let due punishment be awarded for the offence. But is there in the Delicacy of Friendship, or the Letter to Leland, any thing more than sycophancy proved to conviction? No. There was disingenuousness in concealing the name of the writer—there was a wrong spirit in the manner. And did these deserve condign punishment? Contemptuousness, indeed, is, of all methods of expressing dislike, the meanest. Sitting in the seat of the scornful has been always so characterized. It is the truest sign of a mean understanding and of a cold heart. Hurd, in the beginning of his career, had not cast off the slough of his early education. It required all his original capacity and good sense to do it. But he did it at last; and then came out the elevated character which disdained the ignoble strife, and even the most splendid gains of ambition.* The Political Dialogues prove his great improvements as well as his accom-

* Dr. Hurd was offered, and declined, the Archbishopric of Canterbury, on the death of Dr. Cornwallis.

plishments; and *these*, the old King exclaimed, made Hurd a Bishop. But to have been the friend and companion of Yorke, and Murray, and Warburton, prove incontestably the merits of the man, and the elegance of the scholar; and whatever were the demerits, and even the vices that produced these works, where was the use in bringing them forward when most of the parties concerned were laid low in the grave? Was it necessary to lift them up as a beacon to warn others? or were they so important in themselves as to be memorials for future generations?

There can be no doubt (says Dr. Lucas, or perhaps Bishop Hurd himself) but all the learned disputants concerned in this controversy gave a common and generous consent to the quiescence of this subject. In the strength and vigour of intellect, men of learning and ability seize the opportunities that offer for displaying them; and in the cause of what they deem the truth, they are anxious, and even angry, in the struggle. The hand of time, however, softens and quiets the dispositions for combat, and even for victory. The fermentations of disputes, like the grosser particles in the composition, sink gradually to rest, under the mild and clearer influence of religion and philosophy. That this, Sir, was the desirable issue of the present controversy, and that all the distinguished characters concerned in it, before they were separated by the great determiner of all questions, regarded each other with mutual respect as scholars, as men, and as Christians, there cannot be the least doubt.—Lucas, pp. 33, 34.

Dr. Lucas of Ripple, who married one of the Bishop of Worcester's nieces, and who had been preferred by him on account of this connection, wrote an answer to Dr. Parr's Preface and Dedication of the "Tracts by Warburton and a Warbur-

tonian," entitled, "A Letter to the Rev. Dr. Parr, occasioned by his re-publication of the Tracts of Warburton," &c. published for Robson and Clarke, 1789. Dr. Parr has written, in his own hand, in the copy of the tract in his library, "From the author, whom I believe to be a man of wit;" and in a notice before the title-page,

"A Letter to Dr. Parr," very witty, supposed by a Prebendary of Dublin. The book is said to be printed by Robson (and so it was); but Mr. Robson rejected it, as scurrilous in his opinion, from his knowledge of Dr. Parr's character; and of this circumstance he informed Dr. Parr in a very polite and friendly letter. Before the publication it was sent to Dr. Parr, by the author, with his written compliments, and was read by Dr. Parr with much entertainment from its vivacity, with no conviction from its arguments, and with calm contempt at the false and injurious insinuations contained in it.

S. PARR, *May* 2, 1792.

In the first instance, Parr does not appear to have been acquainted with the name or station of the real author, and never with his connection with Bishop Hurd. In another part of the book he writes, "Dr. Lucas, Rector of Ripple, Worcestershire, wrote this letter, August 24, 1812." Such had been his little care, or little inquiry about the question, who wrote it.

Dr. Lucas was the nominal author, but probably wrote a part down from the dictation of his venerable uncle. Perhaps he did not write himself what follows:

Little thanks, therefore, are due to him who, to gratify his own spleen and malignity, *plunges into the regions of oblivion;*

and with ruffian *violence drags forth a reposing spirit of contention into new agitation and tumult.*

And certainly the next paragraph is worthy of Hurd's *manner:*

If, however, Sir, you had been determined to *mix* a *spirit* of theological controversy of *some sort* (which seems to have been the case), it had been more for the credit of your incantations to have brought one of a more captivating form; one that might have answered your purpose by the allurements of novelty; and not, by the lowest degree of necromancy, a sort of palmistry, to have conjured up a dry, battered, antiquated spirit, a very hag, that, by the bandying and repercussions of the disputants, had been absolutely worn out and put to rest.

There is a good deal of humour, and wit perhaps not of a very high kind, at pages 61, 62, 63, &c. and Dr. Lucas's play on Parr's boast,

Optat APRUM, *aut fulvum descendere monte* LEONEM,

is amusing. But these light missiles were not the proper weapons for assailing him; and Dr. Lucas would have done himself more honour had he come forward in person boldly, and employed his whole powers, and they were highly respectable, in defending or avenging the character of his Patron.

But the angry feeling against Hurd did not end here. Dr. Parr says, in a note to his Dedication,

I am told by one whom I esteem the best Greek scholar in the kingdom, and to whom the hat of Bentley would have vailed, that many notable discoveries might be made, by comparing the variæ lectiones, the clippings and the filings, the alterings and the varnishings of certain constitutional doctrines, as they crept by little and little into the different successive editions of certain Political Dialogues.

The first edition of Hurd's Political Dialogues, was in one volume 8vo. printed by Millar, 1759, and is now before me,* with the following notice written on the fly leaf, and variæ lectiones noted at pp. 139, 142, 150, 165, 171, 2, 5, 8, 182, 4, 6, 194, 203, 7, 9, 210, 14, 20, 36, 44, 45, 60, 69, 85, 89, 95, 96, 7, 9, 300, 301, 304.

WARBURTON TRACTS.—MEMORANDUM.

This bit of paper is transcribed from a copy of the first edition, lent me by the learned Mr. Green of Ipswich; and it contains references to the various readings between the first and third editions. I have compared them carefully. I have found Mr. Green's statement very correct, and I see no reason from my own researches to retract, or even to qualify, what I had said in the Warburtonian Tracts upon the authority of Mr. Porson. My dispute with the Bishop of Worcester did not for one moment suspend my great respect for his talents; and if, upon a fair and full inquiry, I had discovered that my words were in the slightest degree too strong for the facts, I intended to take the earliest opportunity of declaring the change in my opinion, and making a proper and public apology for my error. I examined Mr. Green's book in 1802, and I was presented with this very scarce and valuable first edition, by the very learned Dr. Charles Burney, when I visited him at Greenwich early in the spring of 1803. S. Parr, April 9, 1803.

I am of a different opinion. I have collated the first, the third, and fifth editions, and have marked

* It was given to Parr by Dr. Burney, with the following inscription:

De sua in bibliothecam
Samuelis Parr
Honoris et amicitiæ causa
ponendum vult
C. B.
M.DCCC.III.

the clippings, filings, softenings, and varnishings with my pen, and to my weaker optics of criticism it appears wonderful where such great wits and profound scholars could find these marks of calm progressive apostacy. Without doubt Bishop Hurd thought differently on many subjects of history, religion, morals, and politics in the interval between 1759 and 1776; and I know that Dr. Parr did so. But it would be unjust to charge him with apostacy because he modified his opinions or his expressions. For my part, I see no change but for the better in the Dialogues in the last edition, which, moreover, contains the 7th and 8th Dialogues on Foreign Travel, and the letters on Chivalry and Romance, intended to illustrate them. When Dr. Parr was writing his notes to Rapin, and reading accurately Bishop Hurd's Dialogues, he, of course, had the third edition (his own copy) before him. How strange that he should not have noted the *courtly* opinions changed from the *uncourtly*, when he was criticising Hume for too great fondness for the Stuarts, and praising Hurd's juster views. I lament my honoured friend's attack upon Hurd the more, because I think I have proved, that the general cause of letters had little to do with it. But the proof of that which he had seen only through the medium of his sagacity, was at length spontaneously offered to the public gaze, I wish I could add, to the public admiration.

After the Bishop of Worcester's death, " Letters from a late eminent Prelate to one of his friends," were published in 1808-9, containing 257 of War-

burton, and 26 of Hurd, all characteristic of the school and of the writers. In Letters 28, 29, 30, 45, 46, 74, 88, 89, 96, 102, 104, 154, 164, W.—75, 79, 92, 94, 97, 182, H.—there is an interchange of compliments, and abuse of literary men.

Burton, a puppy. 19, W. Potter, mean. 47, W. Rutherforth, the meanest pedant of the age. 22, W. Stebbing, tolerable, from supporting others' nonsense rather than his own. Spence, an extreme poor creature. 45—128, W. Law, licentious and paradoxical. 58, W. Jortin's meanness, and the malignity of his friends excessive. 124, W. Young, the finest writer of nonsense of the age. 129, W. Clarke, miserably cold, lifeless; no invention or dignity. 158, H. Johnson's Edition of Shakspeare, full of insolence and malignant reflections, which have in them as much folly as malignity. 175. W. Lowth, his wit and reasoning below common. 176, W. Lyttleton, Bishop, dull, wrong-headed. 211, W. Tucker, his flow of transcendent nonsense. 221, W. Bench of Bishops, a wooden bench. 208, W. The Court an earthly Pandemonium. 7, W. Zachariah Brooke, shallow, dirty. 20, W. Horne, sneered at. 35, W. Drivel of the Hoadleians., 37 W. Orrery's detestable Letters upon Swift. 37, W. Harris, now to sense, now nonsense leaning. 38, W. N.B. The Church, like the ark of Noah, 46, W. Jackson's Chronology, diving Antiquarian, the wretch, 47, W. Prophecy of the fate of the Church. 47, P. 119. W. bestrid by some lumpish Minister of State, who turns and winds it at his pleasure. Goths and Vandals, return when they will, cannot hurt Cambridge. 51. The angel of dullness ready to pour his vials into the waters of the Cam. 69, W. Brain painted with hieroglyphics. Jortin, played the hypocrite, Combe's vanity, Heathcote's pride. 96, W. Pack of wretches, 97, H. Worthington. Lowth, Garnet, Chappelow, ignorance, ill-faith. 98, W. People devoid of principle, N.B. 100, W. Brown perter, no wiser. 113, W. Rousseau, a seraphic madman. 134. Walpole, an insuperable coxcomb. 187, W. Toup, a coxcomb. 182, H.

Such are the opinions concerning learned men;

some of them the most learned of their generation, which passed between these Correspondents, and which Hurd kept in his closet for more than thirty years after the death of Warburton, and then deliberately gave to the public, a memorial of Warburton's character as well as his own. It is true, that united with them are sage observations, the results of his "acute penetration, his various erudition, and the inexhaustible fertility of his fancy." But "the contemptuous and domineering spirit" of the Controversialist breaks out to the last; and I am forced to confess that, throughout the letters of Warburton, I am continually reminded of Parr. There is the same unyielding firmness; courage even to daring; strong expression, elevated thought, and bitter and caustic remark. They both were fond of displaying their strength of understanding in controversy, but each according to his own manner. Warburton was "an eagle towering;" but instead of "kindling his undazzled eyes at the mid-day beam, purging and unscaling his long obscured sight at the fountain itself of heavenly radiance," never could refrain from pouncing down on the chirping flock below him, and tearing them to pieces. Every little fluttering pecker at the Divine Legation was sure to be darted upon; and when he got nobler game he scarce could sate himself with the carnage. "The View of Lord Bolingbroke's Philosophy" will prove my assertion; and, only excepting Milton's Pro Populo Anglicano Defensio, and his chastisement of Alexander More, there is no harsher composition from the pen of any of

our learned countrymen.* The Dedication of the Tracts of a Warburtonian is elaborately artful, ostentatiously severe, and, though terribly just, never ferociously cruel. The Editor brings out both the friends superbly adorned for sacrifice; he brings them to the altar of criticism, chaunts their praises and their demerits in strains divine, and then, with a mortal blow, consummates the fate of one while he dismisses the other in peace.

Mighty in learning and in critical acumen were both Warburton and Parr. Parr had more taste, more exactness, and more depth. Warburton had more rankness, more force, and more wit. Warburton delighted in wild theory and paradox. Parr in laboured elucidation and illustration. Warburton covered himself over with hieroglyphics and mystic figures. Parr with gaudy images and innumerable decorations. In temper, Warburton was boisterous, haughty, uncontrolable, sometimes coarse. So was Parr when contradicted or opposed. Both required unconditional submission. Both were kind and placable to prostrate and repentant antagonists, and *then*, glowing with friendly feelings; both sincere, and honourable; both vain, and open to flattery. Warburton had less kindness of disposition, and a tendency to more general contemptuousness. Parr had less magnanimity. Warburton had fewer personal friends. Parr had as many political and

* Foreigners, and especially the Italians, beat us out of the field. See Poggius against L. Valla and Philelphus.

theological enemies. Warburton had better tact and sought higher game. Parr was less settled in his views, and deficient in a grand aim for the establishment of his reputation. Both were hated at Court; both were neglected at Court: and the characters of both were influenced by that neglect. If Warburton had been imbued with a spirit of gentleness and humility; if Parr had been tutored and trammelled in the paths of peacefulness; both would have been greater and more useful to mankind. It was the fortune of Warburton to be placed early in good society; Pope, Charles Yorke, and Murray, were his companions; they restrained, or corrected his bad habits, they encouraged his lofty propensities, and they insured his ultimate station. Parr, when driven from Harrow, found few associates at Stanmore. At Colchester, Dr. Nathaniel Forster and Mr. Twining were his only *fit* companions; and at Norwich, what did the friendship of Mr. Windham effect for him? His works attached him only to a party, not to the individual members of the party; though he corresponded with every body, he was fixed to nobody.

The follower of Warburton, with a better instinct, secured his station by a system exactly the reverse. When once adopted by his friend, or master, he never let him go; their friends were mutual, their pursuits were the same, and in the whole correspondence we see omitted no opportunity of securing a patron, by caresses, by flattery, and even by taking arms in his defence, and thereby becom-

ing the partner of Warburton's projects and of his fortune. Never perhaps before, did any man so clearly display his plans and his objects, as Hurd has done in this correspondence with Warburton. Had the letters been stolen from their repositories and published surreptitiously, something might have been forgiven to the careless effusions of confidential intercourse. But the Bishop of Worcester has left himself without excuse. In the first instance he withdrew some account of the life, writings, and character of Warburton, that had been prepared, but the publication of which was delayed for reasons to be explained hereafter. A meagre discourse was actually published afterwards; but the letters were kept back, and brooded over in silence, and not published till after the Bishop's decease. Had not the sentiments contained in them—the scoffs and sneers at private character—and the defamation of most learned men been approved and justified in his mind, they would have been altered—they would have been expunged during so long a period of suppression. They were neither withheld nor expurgated; and Hurd has stamped on himself and his friend an everlasting seal of reprobation, by this posthumous promulgation of their rancorous communications.

Having thus discharged, as he wished to think, an important duty to literature; or having thus vented his spleen in the republication of the "Tracts of Warburton and a Warburtonian," Parr became the declared antagonist of his Diocesan. But he

was not an ungenerous enemy; though he could not always approve, he did not always condemn.

As an Episode to Parr's attack on Bishop Hurd in his Preface to the Warburtonian Tracts, republished by him and dedicated to that venerable Prelate, I shall introduce the following conversation between His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, our present honoured Sovereign Lord the King, and Dr. Parr: it took place at the Duke of Norfolk's table in St. James's Square, in the presence of Mr. Fox, Mr. Sheridan, Lord Erskine, and a large party of distinguished persons. The name of the Archbishop of York, who was then in a declining state of health, having been alluded to, the Prince observed,

I esteem Markham a much greater, wiser, and more learned man than Hurd, and a better teacher, and you will allow me to be a judge, for they were both my Preceptors.—Sir, said Dr. Parr, is it your Royal Highness's pleasure that I should enter upon the topic of their comparative merits as a subject of discussion?—Yes, said the Prince.—Then, Sir, said Dr. Parr, I differ entirely from Your Royal Highness in opinion.—As I knew them both so intimately, replied the Prince, you will not deny that I had the power of more accurately appreciating their respective merits than you can have had. In their manner of teaching you may judge of my estimation of Markham's superiority—his natural dignity and authority, compared with the Bishop of Worcester's smoothness and softness, and I now add, with proper submission to your authority on such a subject, his experience as a schoolmaster, and his better scholarship.—Sir, said Parr, Your Royal Highness began this conversation, and if you permit it to go on, must tolerate a very different inference.—Go on, said the Prince, I declare that Markham understood Greek better than Hurd; for when I read

Homer, and hesitated about a word, Markham immediately explained it, and then we went on; but when I hesitated with Hurd, he always referred me to the Dictionary; I therefore conclude he wanted to be informed himself.—Sir, replied Parr, I venture to differ from Your Royal Highness's conclusion. I am myself a schoolmaster, and I think that Dr. Hurd pursued the right method, and that Dr. Markham failed in his duty. Hurd desired Your Royal Highness to find the word in the Lexicon, not because he did not know it, but because he wished you to find by search, and learn it thoroughly. Dr. Hurd was not eminent as a scholar, but it is not likely that he would have presumed to teach Your Royal Highness without knowing the lesson himself.—Have you not changed your opinion of Dr. Hurd, exclaimed the Prince, I have read a work in which you attacked him fiercely.—Yes, Sir, I attacked him on one point, which I thought important to letters, and I summoned the whole force of my mind, and took every possible pains to do it well, for I consider Hurd to be a great man. He is celebrated as such by foreign critics, who appreciate justly his wonderful acuteness, sagacity, and dexterity in doing what he has done with so small a stock of learning. There is no comparison, in my opinion, between Markham and Hurd as men of talents. Markham was a pompous schoolmaster—Hurd was a stiff and cold, but correct gentleman. Markham was at the head of a great school, then of a great college, and finally became an Archbishop. In all these stations he had trumpeters of his fame, who called him great, though he published one Concio only, which has already sunk into oblivion. From a farm-house and village school Hurd emerged the friend of Gray, and a circle of distinguished men. While Fellow of a small College he sent out works praised by foreign critics, and not despised by our own scholars. He enriched his understanding by study, and sent from the obscurity of a country village, a book, Sir, which your Royal Father is said to have declared made him a Bishop. He made himself unpopular in his own profession by the defence of a fantastical system. He had decryers—he had no trumpeters; he was great in and by himself; and perhaps, Sir, a portion of that power and

adroitnesss you have manifested in this debate, might have been owing to him.*

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* While this part of the work was passing through the press, Feb. 14, 1828, I for the first time saw Mr. Cradock's Literary and Miscellaneous Memoirs, vol. IV. The anecdote of the conversation of the King is imperfectly told; and as to another anecdote, I was present on an occasion in the summer of 1793, when the same subject was started. At the Bishop's Palace in Worcester, the Prebendaries of the Cathedral, then in residence, my father, myself, and some other company, *perhaps Mr. Professor Mainwaring*, drank tea after evening service, when the Bishop called the French fugitives emīgrants; and on somebody asking his reason for this deviation from common pronunciation, expressed his astonishment that it should be pronounced otherwise. My father, with his wonted quickness, replied, "I presume your Lordship does not always adhere so strictly to the quantity of the original, when you pronounce words derived from Latin. Would you in any case say to me, 'Doctor, your medicīnal prescription irrītates me.'" The Bishop very sensibly replied only with a hearty laugh.

The statement about the Professor and the reflections on the Bishop appear to me of very doubtful character. The Bishop's intellect at this time was unchanged. He had no public days after, and saw little private company. The observation that he became childish is quite incorrect; and that he suffered any company so to treat him like a child as to desire him to name the trump, is perfectly untrue. This is a reflex anecdote, from a neighbouring Diocese and a contemporary *Right Honourable* Bishop. Indeed, except on his birth-day, about Christmas, which we always spent at Hartlebury Castle, I never saw cards; we played for sixpences. The last letter I received from Bishop Hurd was in 1801, on the death of my father; it was written without tremor, in his usual beautifully distinct hand. I saw him for the last time the next year, when he was more than 80, and his intellect was then unimpaired, and I have indisputable authority for asserting, that he continued unchanged in mind and manners to the end

Fox, when the Prince was gone, exclaimed, in his high tone of voice, "He thought he had caught you, but he caught a Tartar."

I took down this conversation from my revered friend's dictation. He averred that he was put on his defence, and that the argument was maintained with some heat.

The dedication of the two Tracts of a Warburtonian, addressed by the Editor to a learned Critic, is one of the most striking monuments of English literature. There is no equal quantity of fine writing in the same quantity of any other composition with which I am acquainted; nor from which a richer selection of phrases, strong expressions, bitter allusions, sarcastic turns, and happy illustrations, can be more frequently quoted.* They are in the mind of every English scholar, ready ornaments of conversation, nor has the attempt to decry this fine specimen of our literature, by denominating it a series of antitheses, at all succeeded. The very nature of the subject made it antithetical. One object of the work was, to compare Hurd with Warburton, to display the mighty Controversialist, and to throw a gleam of light upon the learned Critic, who had crept under the shadow

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of life. The letter to Mr. Cradock from Dr. Parr, p. 326, is a proof of the vigour and serenity of our revered friend's mind within a few days of the attack which brought him to the grave.

* Tom Warton professed to Dr. Routh, that if he were called upon to point out some of the finest sentences in English prose, he should quote Parr's preface and dedication of the Warburtonian Tracts.

of his friend's wings, and shrouded himself in an obscurity in which he laid snares, and from which he launched his shafts of malignity. So far as a disapprobation of insidious detraction goes, the attack of Parr is just. The Delicacy of Friendship, in its conception, was parasitical; in its composition, was petulant; in its anonymous publication, ungenerous. But the punishment exceeded the offence; and Parr, in pursuing justice too far, has excited a sentiment of re-action, and even of compassion in the mind of his reader; who then remembers that Dr. Hurd was a man of learning, of taste, and of virtue,—that although he began his public career by being the flatterer of Warburton, he was at last his true friend; and compensated for the less worthy part of his life by an old age adorned with hoary holiness, and passed in dignified seclusion.

The criticisms on this publication of Dr. Parr were very numerous. I shall only now notice one; having already pointed out the material part of Dr. Lucas's authorised or official attack, *viz.* "Quarrels of Authors," &c. by the author of the "Calamities of Authors." Here Parr is feebly impugned,—Warburton bitterly attacked,—and Hurd insolently defamed. The author even calls him a toad-eater. If I were to select the worst-composed character of Parr, for want of correctness in the matter of fact, for rabble of metaphor and false glare, it would be from the Note on the Warburtonian Tracts in "Quarrels of Authors," p. 12.

CHAPTER VI

Regency.—Birmingham Sermons.—Test Act.

While thus busied with his attack on Hurd, a political event occurred, naturally tending to excite the hopes of so sanguine a man as Dr. Parr, who had so entirely devoted himself to the politics of Mr. Fox and his party. The health of the King had been manifestly impaired to common observation during the summer of 1788. He was sent to Cheltenham for the benefit of the waters, and from thence visited his favourite the Bishop of Worcester, and attended the music-meeting established for the benefit of the widows and orphans of the Clergy of the three Choirs. It was observed by some who attended the levee at the palace at Worcester, that the King's appearance was such as to excite alarm; and that his conduct, during his public appearance in the City, was at least extraordinary. On his return to Windsor, the King's illness was divulged to the public by the attendance of his physicians; but the particular disease was kept secret, and it was not till November that the real disorder was proclaimed, by the notice of the great question left by Dr. Warren at Dr. Heberden's house in Pall Mall.

It is no part of my business to enter into the history of opinions on the supposed deviation from the great constitutional rule, on the question of appointing a Regent, when the Royal authority was

unable to give its sanction to the resolutions of the two Houses of Parliament.

There are many letters from Dr. Parr on this delicate subject; I subjoin the following, as it contains a very full view of it.

To the Rev. Henry Kett, Trinity College, Oxford.

DEAR SIR, *Dec.* 31, 1788.

I return you my best thanks for a note, value £35 odd, which I this day received. Again I thank you, and I desire you also to give my thanks to all the worthy persons who have contributed in this good cause. It will please you to hear that the collection already amounts to £200, and that I expect to get £30 more. My stewardship has been laborious, and it has also been successful. I cannot help smiling at your patriotic pertinacity about the marble. I assure you that I sat down to the book without expecting or desiring to be convinced. I am not a professed Antiquary; and I never read five Greek marbles in my life. But I have read, in books, what is said at least to be written upon five hundred, and I believe myself versed in this sort of lore pretty accurately. The opinion I gave of Robinson's book is founded upon a very careful perusal; and whether he be right or wrong, his reasoning is pertinent and solid, and deserves to be treated with more respect than is shewn to it in your letter. I have very few doubts remaining, and I wish the men of Oxford to reserve their triumph till they produce a good book, which I shall be very happy to see. It is not without reluctance that I give up any monument of antiquity, and especially one which furnishes Bentley with so many illustrious opportunities of displaying his matchless skill in conjectural criticism. The authenticity of the Marble never came before his penetrating mind as a subject of dispute. I wish it had, for he would have written better than Salmasius has written upon a similar topic, and would have thrown out much curious information upon the history of the Greek letters, and upon Chronology. His book would have been most entertaining, and far more instructive than Robinson's, but I doubt whether it would have been more satis-

factory, and half so candid. Robinson's proofs are not, in my estimation, or his own, all of them equally decisive; but their united forces seem to me irresistible, so far at least as to create strong doubt, and so long as they are opposed only by general remarks and incidental objections. When I was in London I spoke to Porson and Burney about the book, not having then read it myself. I heard only one specific objection, which is obvious, and no doubt pertinent, in a general way of speaking, and no more. It amounted only to this, that of Ford's Inscriptions upon Stones there are very few instances, and that we cannot argue rapidly and indiscriminately from Ford's manuscripts. All this is very true in itself, but had little weight upon my mind when I read the book; which I did with great attention, great surprise, and a conviction greater than I expected or desired. At all events some of your Oxford heroes must come forth. I think Chandler a good scholar, but know nothing of the force of his mind, or the *real* extent of his reading; for what I have seen of his erudition is common enough. I have *secret* reasons of delicacy for laying no stress upon the shewy and positive way of talking in one of your witnesses, whom I know intus et in cute. But after all I am glad to find you zealous at Oxford; as zeal, even in the defence of error, exercises ingenuity, invigorates literary curiosity, and, in the event, adds to the general stock of knowledge. Let me see an answer, and if it be a good one, I shall not be stubborn.

As to political matters, I will just say a word. Mr. Fox's position is true, according to the sense in which it was explained.—It is not true, according to the sense in which alone it has been opposed; it is doubtful in part of the sense, according to which it has been defended. My idea is this: The Prince has no legal right; if *legal* means either an express declaration of law, or a positive and explicit proposition laid down generally in Parliament; but has a fair constitutional right, by which I mean as follows: It is a right, founded upon analogy, from the elective nature of the monarchy. Upon analogy, from practice; according to which the heir apparent, unless absent from the country, or labouring under some legal disability, has been made Regent. It is a right not indirect or analogical, but direct upon principles of expediency; and

those principles weigh with me more than any other consideration. I hold, that the right is not to be created by Parliament, but to be recognised and conveyed by it. I have told you that claim, as distinguished from right, pre-supposes the existence of right, and implies only the act of asserting it. If the Prince has no right, it plainly follows that the meanest subject is upon a footing with him; and yet they, who hold one, do not hold the other, which is to me a gross absurdity. What is meant by the word "right?" Look into Burlamaque, and there you will find a clear, sound, metaphysical explanation: in conformity to which I maintain the Prince's right, and Mr. Pitt's speech does not in any way touch the real jet of the question. He pranced about the precedents, but did not entangle himself in the briers of logic. The business took a turn, a vile popular turn, which prevented all deep and sound discussion. If the decision be really favourable to liberty, I am glad of it, though I am at a loss to conceive it is so. "Servet in ambiguo, qui consulit urbi," was the prudent language of Opposition. But to Mr. Pitt, aliter visum est.

What has been done tends only to bewilder the judgment of men, to inflame their passions, and to weaken a Regency government, which in its own nature can seldom be vigorous without being oppressive. The great seal business is to all intents and purposes a legislative act, and an act of usurpation too. But necessity is pleaded. If necessity really exists, all reasoning is silenced. In my opinion the necessity was assumed, but never proved; and in the House of Lords, as well as Commons, the speeches, though able on the side of the Ministry, very able, yet one and all stray wide of the real question about right and necessity. Now I have told you my creed, and am ready to hear yours, for which I give you my word, that I will not burn you, be it ever so heterodox. How is my friend Routh? for he is a truly learned, modest, sagacious, and impartial scholar. Warton is idle, I suppose; or rather has holidays this new year. Does he know that I once intended to review his Milton? I read stoutly old English near a month for the purpose; and White, who has seen my references, will make a good report. If he re-publishes Milton, I may be disposed to say something. I send one detection

of a plagiarism, and another of a false fact in the margin of one of the answers; but it was not produced in the review, which was general. You deserve to be trounced for saying that Robinson is short-sighted, and I must retort the charge. Pray, are not the contents of your Marble to be found edited again and again, so as to be like a διεσκευασμένη Τραγωδία, and have they not been accompanied by emendations, notes, and the whole editorial train? I hope we may depend upon what you read in them, and that you are not now, as you were in the days of Bentley, unable to read. Robinson is not τυφλὸς τὸν νοῦν, and it would be well for his opponents if they are not τυφλοὶ τὰ ὦτα, as Tiresias says. I beg my compliments to all friends; and I hope Mr. Burney has got leave to transcribe Photius's Lexicon, of which there is a much better copy, once belonging to Gale, in Trinity College, Cambridge. Your friend, the Marquis of Worcester, is converted to Pittism, I perceive, for which I heartily despise him. As to political right and wrong, men will differ; and if they are tolerably endowed with common sense and common honesty, I forgive them; but what strikes me most painfully is this, that Pitt's example has produced a most inordinate degree of premature ambition, premature conceit, and premature profligacy in almost all the young men of the age; and I do not think Oxford or Cambridge favourable to the education of good citizens. I should extend the catalogue, but I forbear. If you do not reform yourselves soon, you will sink under the spirit of the times, which too many of you have adopted in your own conduct, and cherished in those who are committed to your care. I am your very faithful and obedient servant, S. PARR.

During the two first months of the year Parr's hopes were kept up by the prospect of the establishment of the Regency on any terms; disapproving, as he utterly did, of Pitt's republican doctrine on the question of the right of the Prince of Wales to the Regency, and declaring that "I shall not be entirely discontented if Pitt will agree, upon a vacancy, not to aspire to the *throne itself*."

The recovery of the King dispelled every illusion in the month of March. The mitres which had floated in his fancy, or the snug arm-chair* in the Residentiaryship of St. Paul's, had all vanished into thin air; and on this subject the following letter will say all that is necessary.

From Dr. Parr to the Rev. Mr. Homer.

Hatton, March 6, 1789.

I received yours at Warwick; and I roared with laughter all the way home at Steevens's tricks upon you and me. I shall keep the paper till my dying day. But you must get "vendure-tur" altered, and make the printer of the St. James's correct it. By all means make him. As to politics, Master Homer, we are all in the wrong box; and I must go without my arm-chair at Amen Corner. But never mind; these are the changes and chances of life. Don't you think Billy Pitt a lucky dog? I see they attack the Irish in all the Pittite papers. But this don't prove them wrong, and they are likely to be troublesome; especially, if a war breaks out. Not a word do you write about my law and Stationer's-hall; and so I suppose that I am safe with Dilly, and Dilly will look to himself. To be sure, it would have an ugly look for a bishop to avow such a book, at such a time, merely for the purpose of prosecuting. But what is to be done with the second Edition, and how goes the contract on about the Sermons? Who goes to Ireland? I hope Lord W., for, though I dislike him heartily, he will infallibly make Bennet a bishop, and this will be a thoroughly good thing. He is cold and proud; and, therefore, depend upon it, a favourite with Pitt. But the Irish will not like him. I hope you illuminated to save both your windows and your credit. I suppose we are to have a Thanksgiving; and, of course, I must preach. But I'll take good care what. It would not be safe to give them a

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* Which had belonged to Taylor, the editor of Demosthenes, and was pointed out to Parr by Dr. Farmer, if he had succeeded to a Residentiaryship.

second Phileleutherus; and then Warwickshire would not sound well in Latin; so I shall say a little about death, and about the king, and conclude. A man of sense is not embarrased by these things. But we shall have, what Jack Bartlam calls *plenty* of loyal sermons, with nonsense and flattery, and I suppose, praise to Pitt, and abuse upon the Opposition. I shall lie by to catch the House of Lords' Sermon; for if it is very bad, I will chastise it. Your letter was a good while in coming, and did not tell me enough about my own affairs. If Farmer is in residence when I'm in town, I must see Dr. Taylor's chair. Well! I should fill it better than it has been filled since Taylor died. But no more of this. I suppose Nichols will be at me, and I shall know it in a day or two. The Junius you shall see when I go to town. I suppose it will be a short Session, and then a dissolution. Somehow or other, I don't believe the King well. I wish the Prince, in decency and prudence, to take a share in the Regency. It will be irksome, but it is right, and it will look magnanimous, and he must be some check, and have some weight. I hope Combe will succeed. I hear Lawley is very bad; and I am sure that Mr. Legge * would come in, if he thought proper to stand. I want to have Sir George out.

Homer! you are a monstrous nincompoop about Warwickshire; an incorrigible fool; a prejudiced and credulous booby; a tasteless admirer of pork pies and Epiphany Sessions. Our jail is full, and the gallows will be loaded. Elliot continues sheriff. The sheriff-elect got twelve or fourteen votes against us, by promises and threats. It would take me up two days to tell you Warwick news. I expect to be murdered before the election; for murder is quite in fashion here. Homer! Warwickshire is two centuries behind in civilization. I say positively it is. Good bye. Have some good port ready for me in April; for I am not at all downcast, and am glad to be out of suspense.

In autumn of 1789, Parr was invited to preach charity sermons at Coventry and Birmingham.

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* Mr. Heneage Legge, of Aston Hall, a gentleman universally esteemed and respected.

Though associated with the Whigs in opinion, he was connected with the high church party of Warwickshire, in resisting the repeal of the Test laws, and therefore was selected on these public occasions. His acquaintance with Henry Homer was another reason for his being chosen, as *his* relations, both at Coventry and Birmingham, were leading persons, and Parr visited at the houses of both. The correspondence with Henry Homer continues to throw light on this part of the life of Parr, and the reader will be amused by the ludicrous account of the personal preparations for the Birmingham sermons, and the appearance before a Birmingham audience.

From the Rev. Dr. Parr, to the Rev. H. Homer.

September 21, 1789.

Great is your zeal, and great your diligence, and great your sagacity, and great your agility, unless when the —— is over and above troublesome. At your cousin Homer's request, I am going to preach two charity sermons at Birmingham; therefore, upon principles of cousinship, you must assist, not in making sermons, but in procuring a wig. Therefore, without delay, step down to Mrs. Bathurst's and enquire of her servant, where my old barber lives, for I forget his name. It is just by. Bid him directly put my very largest wig into curl, fence it with *plenty* of paper, and inclose it safe, safe, safe, in a wooden box, for which do you pay and forward to me directly, directly, by the Birmingham and Warwick Mercury coach, which sets off from the Saracen's Head, Ludgate-hill; and do you write a direction upon a card, and let him write another on the box: you must be expeditious.

I have lately been at Rugby and dined with your brother and James, and scolded James about the Eton Tacitus, which

is a vile book, but yours, every body says, is a very fine one. Take care of the wig, great care; let me have it before Friday, for the coach goes by my door, and began to run yesterday. I have been upon a visit at Combe Abbey, and I own the piece of water far, very far, surpassed my expectation. Yours, S. P.

Friday, black Friday, Sept. 25, 1789.

While I was applauding your zeal, and exulting in your success, and laughing at your drollery, behold the coach had passed by, and when the concluding paragraph drove me to the coach card, I found, to my extreme mortification, that it sets off, not from Ludgate-hill, but from Snow-hill, as you most inauspiciously foreboded; and then Jack Bartlam screamed in my ear, "How, Sir, could you forget Snow-hill? The road to Smithfield, where proceed the droves of oxen which scare you in London, the road from Newgate to Tyburn, where once were exhibited your favourite executions; a road, which having lost much of its dignity since the erection of scaffolds before Newgate, was beginning to recover that dignity by being the road for the conveyance of your stupendous wig. You, Sir, are the last man who should have forgot Snow-hill, the road of oxen, which you hate; the quondam road of hanging processions, which you love; the intended road of wigs, which you admire." Master Homer, this was no consolation to me; and I am half distracted at what has happened. I should be quite distracted if next Sunday were the day; especially after your brilliant encomiums upon magnificent perukes, and your animated description of the respect in which they are held at Birmingham by your friends. But, thanks to my stars, I have time before me. Fly then, fly—hasten to my barber, correct my mistake, and let no time, no exertion, no shift be lost in recovering the wanderer. Recover it, recover it, recover it, and assist with your sagacious counsel the astonished and frightened barber. Don't roll your eyes; don't raise your voice; and let all your scolding, for scold you must, and scold you will, let it all now—let it all be laid upon me. I fear it not; and I should not regard it if I did. But pity the barber, pity me, pity the wig itself. For who

knows but it is seized to cover the pate of some fat and greasy alderman, or to be chopped down into three Bob Jeroms, to adorn the empty scull of some spruce and prig Divine at Oxford or at Bath. Oh Homer! what degradation, what profanation is this! Prevent it, dear Homer, for my sake and for your own, since your own credit is concerned in the solemnity of my appearance among your Birmingham friends. I am too much shocked, and too much dismayed, to rail at White, or to talk of the Prince's answer, or to abuse Dundas, or to sing the praises of Hare. Recover my wig, and you shall be my groom, or my valet-de-chambre, or my curate, or my press devil, or my errand-boy, for twenty-one years, added to fourteen; and I will pay you better than Hare pays his servants; that is, in better coin, and with more good will; for I shall pay you by consulting you, and by employing you, and by jobing you; all of which is right good payment, and such as you deserve. Thes are your rewards if you recover the wig. What shall, what can I do without it? Vain will be the silken cassock, vain the swelling scarf, vain the snow-white band, vain all my metaphysical reasoning, vain all my *vernacular* eloquence; yea, vanity of vanities will they be without a wig. Farewell, but remember the wig. How I shall hug it, and bless you, and proclaim your praises among your friends! I have half a mind, as my sermon turns upon benevolence, to introduce this story as an example; and then what praises shall I bestow upon yourself! commend your self-denial, your encountering long walks, dirty streets, saucy coachmen, and all the .... evils of London for the love of your poor neighbour, S. PARR.

The coach sets off every day but Sunday. Oh let me have it on Wednesday! I shall have no heart to go through the sermon without it, nor even to make it with a polish fit for the congregation you admire at St. Philip's. What says Bartlam? A bunting, beggarly, brass-making, brazen-faced, brazen-hearted, blackguard, bustling, booby, Birmingham mob? For shame, I say. Does not Homer admire them? Are they not your countrymen? And is Alcester, in all its glory, to compare with Birmingham? Hanover-square Church, St. James's Church, West end of the town Chapels, are nothing, quoth Homer, when opposed to St. Philip's. Homer! I'll tell you,

all the news; and I'll tell you truth if it suits me. Who is the druggist? Must I take pills or an emetic? Pray scold Bartlam. All hands aloft to dress me over the wig.

Wednesday, Sept. 30, 1789.

The enclosed was written the day your letter came, and the wig came not. On the next day the letter was given to Sharp to carry to Warwick; and he was just setting off with it, when to our surprise, and our wonder, and our amazement, and our astonishment, and our stupefaction, and our delight, and our joy, and our comfort, and our transport, and our rapture, and extacy, behold, behold, behold, a box, a box, a box, and in it a WIG. Old boy! all is well that ends well, and now, now, two wigs go to Birmingham, and each a good wig, good originally, but now making better; and Sharp said that he never saw a better wig than the Pauline. It was the work of a Master. I do not know any fine barber at Birmingham, and what signifies a fine wig not finely dressed. I don't believe there is one in the town. Will you advertise for me in the Birmingham papers, or, to save expences, send a good saucy sort of message to your cousin, and desire him to enquire who is the best, the very best, by far the very best wig-dresser in the town. Look you, often as I have been there, I never saw a good wig, and so I almost despair, but your advice and aid may do.

And now as to the Divinity; I intended to make one, and to preach again the Coventry tit in the afternoon. I sat down to this said one, and it grew, I thought, big enough for two; we were just beginning to transcribe, and we found it would make three..... But to proceed, that is to say, to go back again to our subject, that one head and a tail-piece will do for each sermon, and so there will be three heads remaining, which I intend to clap upon some Cerberian monster of divinity when I am a Bishop. Homer! they are spick-and-span new, in compliment to your cousin, and braziers, and ironmongers. What I shall preach will be very good stuff. But the stuff omitted is philosophical; and Jack Bartlam owns he does not understand a great deal of it; wherein he speaketh truth. The two books

into which we transcribe contain the first sixty-three *leaves*, and the second seventy-three ditto. None of your little short tits, fit for Bob Jerome Caxons. No, no, no. By the way, Caxon is like Caxton, and Caxton was one of the first Printers, and printing is your trade, and so how go you and the Devils on in Fleet-street. But surely the Pittites don't talk of paying debts. Let them remember Billy and Billy's papa..... Oh! Homer, Homer, if Sam would execute the plot, what a magazine of paragraphs would you play off from your newspaper batteries! After all, I do but laugh with you about a .... writing to your cousin, though I confess I have fears of *infra dignitatem* for me, and so I take my chance. We shall be more than a week, I think, in transcribing. A friend of White's has laid me on most unmercifully in the Monthly Review. I find that I shall be under the necessity of proving him a scoundrel and an ingrate, neither of which you are. Farewell.

DEAR SIR, *Friday Afternoon, Oct.* 23, 1789.

The Doctor being at present much engaged in business, and sorely tormented with a boil, I write to give you some account of our Birmingham expedition.

We left Hatton on Saturday the 10th inst., and dined at Birmingham with a Mr. Brook, a very worthy, pleasant, and sensible man, and one of the learned profession of the law. We supped in the evening at the house of your relation in New Hall Street, where the Doctor slept during his stay at Birmingham, and where he received every possible mark of civility, and on the ensuing morning the Doctor was to preach at St. Martin's, the old Church, and the arrangements for the sermon were quite superb in decoration, and quite flaming in orthodoxy; when lo! to our sorrow, to our surprise and vexation, that which was to give the closing dignity of appearance and air of solemnity to the whole, was spoiled by the tastelessness, clumsiness, and ignorance of a Birmingham barber. The top of the wig, which ought to have been smoothed down with uncommon exactness, and rounded with the nicest precision, was, by the rude hands of this execrable dunce, deformed and ruffled

like unto the feathers of an enraged hen. There was not to be found, in the whole town of Birmingham, a man whose professional knowledge could give propriety and beauty of appearance to this most mighty adjunct of theology. Such a wig had never even been seen by them before. There was, however, a tradition in the town of a peruke, once belonging to a Mr. Newling, a Parson, of about half the size of the Doctor's, and which was known to have employed a Barber for the space of three whole days to prepare it for Sunday. How great then would have been your mortification to have viewed one slight defect in your friend, the representation of whose outward form, as well as of his words, would meet with no indulgence from the narrowness and bigotry of the Methodists, from the mischievous cunning and unsparing rancour of the Priestleian sect. But I tell you, with triumph and with joy, that the uncommon eloquence of the composition, as well as the matchless propriety of the sentiments, equally mortified their infernal malevolence, and disappointed their prying activity. There was, however, a slight clamour raised against the sermon in the afternoon, because the Doctor, after having severely trounced the opinions, and most loudly condemned the spirit of Priestley's controversial writings, yet chose to pay him a sincere tribute of applause for two sermons, written upon the nature of benevolence, and which were not "fettered by any limitations from particular forms of theological doctrines, or particular modes of ecclesiastical discipline." This clamour was raised by the Methodists, who styled it "a rank Presbyterian sermon:" but the Doctor's opinion of it is, that it was rather of the high-flying turn. He has received a private application to print it, but he is too firm and too proud to give any satisfaction to the ignorance and calumnies of such gross and execrable enthusiasts. We dined at the hospitable house of your relation on Sunday, who expressed himself much mortified at the clumsiness of the barber, whom he had the very day before most proudly praised, and most confidently recommended.

I am, dear Sir, with great respect, truly yours,

J. BARTLAM.

The Doctor now for the first time dictates. He begs you would not fail either to write or to call upon Dr. Thompson, to assure him that nothing has been ill between us, that everything is perfectly well, that his last very sensible and obliging letter was received by me, and will be answered when I have had one night's rest, which I have not had these seven nights, and last night very bad. Jack Bartlam and myself went to Lord Dartmouth's on Monday, and returned to Birmingham the next day. I reached home on Wednesday morning. My eloquence produced the effect I most wished; for the collections at the Church exceeded the usual sum collected upon these occasions by £20. I will write to you in a few days, and desire you to get not only the new Heyne's Virgil and Villoison's Homer for me, but for Mr. Dewes, viz., two sets of each, one for me, and one for Dewes, get them directly. Yours, S. PARR.

To the Rev. Mr. Homer.

The sermons preached at Birmingham are preserved, and are published in this collection of the works; they are deemed worthy of Parr's fame, and doubtless will be esteemed so by the pious and the learned, notwithstanding the verdict of the Birmingham audience. That verdict, perhaps, was given under the influence of prejudice. Dr. Priestley was then at the height of his controversial career; at war with the friends of the Establishment, and personally engaged in angry debate with some of the Clergymen of his neighbourhood.

In October, 1789 (says Dr. Parr in the Sequel, p. 99), when I preached for the Charity Schools at Birmingham, I earnestly recommended to the audience two admirable sermons which Dr. Priestley had written, &c. &c.

This commendation gave great offence; the

name of the arch-heritic was poison to the orthodox ears of many of the congregation. One of them in the vestry, immediately after the sermon, ventured even to expostulate with the preacher; and to represent to him that the sermon recommended might be admirable and good Christian doctrine, but that the author was an enemy to the Church, and therefore ought never to be named within its sacred precincts. Parr heard him out, and then calmly replied, "Sir, you are the best vindicator of *Churchianity* I ever knew."

Party, at this time, ran high on all questions of public interest; and religious party, the most relentless in its spirit, and the most cruel in its persecutions of any, led the way. The French Revolution had mixed its leaven with the mass of human society, and on every side it began to heave and to ferment.

I find from the Memoir of the Rev. George Walker, F.R.S. prefixed to "Essays on various Subjects," in 2 vols., that in 1787,

> A variety of circumstances had concurred to favour an application to the Legislature for a repeal of the Corporation and Test Acts; and very strenuous exertions were made, on the part of the whole Dissenting Interest of the kingdom, to effect a liberation from the pains and disabilities of those disgraceful and vexatious statutes. p. clvii.

But it was not till the plan of union, proposed by the Birmingham Committee in October, 1789, was generally adopted, that they felt themselves entitled to declare, that they acted in the name and by the authority of the whole body of Dis-

senters throughout the kingdom. The object of this plan was to form a well-connected union of the Dissenters throughout England, by a chain of intercourse; the adoption of it was strongly enforced by Mr. Walker in a letter addressed to the general meeting at Leicester in Dec. 1789, &c. His counsel was followed; the Dissenters were encouraged to more vigorous exertions, and resolutions, declaratory of their principles, were drawn up by Mr. Walker, and unanimously approved at a meeting of deputies from the counties of Derby, Nottingham, Lincoln, Warwick, Salop, Stafford, Leicester, Rutland, and York. From the publication of these Resolutions a tempest of opposition arose, and Parr wrote thus to Henry Homer.

Friday, Jan. 22, 1790.

I think White given over to a reprobate mind. But, though defeated and disgraced, he will turn the Bath journey to account with those who are in the habit of believing him; and my opinion is, that Gabriel should be prepared for publishing all that past; and actually publish, when White's misrepresentations get abroad. W. is so very bad a man that I feel very little pity for him; and if the truth were known, I dare say it would come out from his dark, secret, and crooked correspondence, that he has told lies and done mischief to every friend he was ever connected with; and that we none of us know or can trace the mischief. But the Prior Park story will put every body upon their guard: and it ought to be proclaimed; it ought, it ought.

As to the pamphlet, I am sorry to say that it seems to me very dull, and ill written. I have not the smallest anger towards the writer, who, I dare say, is some self-important country parson, who looks and talks big at a visitation, hugs the church, and looks up to Bishop Hurd as one of its columns. But as to wit, argument, learning, and com-

position, he is a total stranger to them. Be not afraid; Augustus,* who writes for me, will vouch that I have now abandoned all idea of delicacy to White; that I had formed and avowed my intention of publishing a volume long ago, before I heard the slightest whispers of the Bampton business; that I then dropped it; that I have now resumed it; that he, the said Augustus, did spend nearly one whole day in rummaging my paper closet with me; that the sermons had hardly one of them been unbundled since they came from Norfolk; that some were scattered and in corners; fragments of others found among letters and various sorts of papers; that it was extremely difficult to collect either the sermons or their detached parts; that not one is regular or legible; that all are full of twistings, turnings, and references backwards and forwards; that such a chaos probably never existed in the world; that they are now put together into one box by themselves, which is a grand step towards publication; that the list of the favourite ones is made out in the said Augustus's hand-writing; nay, that I have almost settled whether there should be two volumes or three; that I mean to read them over next summer; and that this very job will take up many months; then Bartlam is to transcribe, and I will get rid of them, for at present they are a reproach to me. But I will not take a peep till May or June. This read to Hutton. Now to business.

Pray get the parcel from Dilly's, and forward it with the Meursius, and any other single books you may have for me. But pray put them into paper, not forgetting Armstrong; and let them, with your own hands, be carefully put into the parcel from Davis. Go as soon as possible, and pray desire Mr. Elmsly to add the second edition of Timæus's enlarged Lexicon Platonicum, which came out lately; and let his parcel and Davis's parcel, and Shepperson's parcel, all be sent by Hands's waggon, from Friday-street. I shall not have one good book left if the booksellers will not send me their catalogues by the coach from Snow-hill. Pray, my friend, pray do all this speedily. Moreover, Mr. Reed's Westminster Magazine is safe, quite safe, in my library. Make my best compli-

* Honourable and Reverend Chancellor Legge.

ments to him; and, above all things, Homer, above all, let me know whether I can get the separate volumes of the ancient Universal History; and whether that I sent for from Shepperson is to be had, and what Dilly says about our business, for I shall take out my profits in modern books, half-bound. The letter sent to Dr. Combe contained a request for me to write Johnson's epitaph; and an application from Cadell for me to write the life of Johnson, to be prefixed to a new edition of his Works. But I declined both. I feel myself most sincerely grateful to Mr. Steevens for his application about Shakspeare. He does me great and real honour; indeed I think so, and I charge you without delay to tell him so in my own words.

Now I have marked most of the plays; but my observations are chiefly verbal; that is, they relate to peculiar modes of phraseology similar to those which I have found in the Greek tragedians; not imitations, mind you, but resemblances, and this is a sort of lore not worth Mr. Steevens's having; especially as Upton has done something of the kind, though upon different principles from me. However, I am delighted with this instance of respect from Steevens, whose learning, taste, and acuteness, I have always, both publicly and privately, spoken of with admiration. All this you are authorised to say to him, and say it soon. It is not necessary for the pamphlet-writer to have seen my library, or my countenance, as both are well known by common fame. I give you credit for the conjecture about Gloucester, and agree with you.

We are all in a ferment about the Test Act. Last night I received the dissenting resolutions of the midland counties. They are wonderfully animated, elegant, energetic, determined, and rebellious; and they are written by a Mr. Walker, whom I knew in Norfolk. He lived formerly at Yarmouth, but now at Nottingham. He is an ingenious, open-hearted, enthusiastic, intrepid dissenter, and would die for the cause. Fox is mentioned, but in such a sort as convinces me, that the Presbyterians are not with him. We shall in Warwickshire make a grand push; I shall attend and give my consent; but I will not speak, nor write, nor take the lead, as I have no property in the county; but I will encourage; and this I do, not only from my regard to the Establishment, but to the true interests

of Mr. Fox and the Prince; for I am persuaded that things are ripening for a revolution; and that, in case of a new reign, dreadful mischief will ensue—dreadful indeed. Fox is in a difficult situation. I thank you for the Birmingham story, every word of which I believe. I wish I could send you the last Birmingham paper. They are publishing, in weekly numbers, books about the Test: but the Church slumbers; and forsooth, a Bishop's Chaplain, Burgess, has been urging me to write; a pretty story. So the Bishops would employ me, and abuse me, and let me starve. Not I, indeed; I will not be their dupe. I am only a curate but I will do my duty as a private Clergyman. I beg of you to look after all my books, and am fretted at their not coming. A storm is gathering, depend upon it, Homer; and if the Church does not exert itself, it will fall; however, I shall have no share in the guilt. The frost is going. Gabriel is in great spirits, and now he may have a complete triumph. If you can get the Virgil in time, put it into the parcel, but I am in no hurry about it. Does Combe yet defend White after the Prior Park story? The Doctor has many good qualities, but I do not confide in his judgment about literary men. I hear from Ireland that Bennet is considered as the manager of all the politics there, and I long to hear of his being a Bishop, for he deserves a mitre. I never can excuse Dr. Farmer, though I do not even allow personal considerations to make me overlook the virtue and talents of those who use me ill. Where does Lord John live? I want to write to him. Yours, S. P.

Again, to the Rev. H. Homer, 1790.

We had a grand Epiphany Sessions. I long to tell you a Presbyterian plot about the County Treasurer's Office, which was detected, and to their honour defeated by the magistrates. We shall do what the Bishops ought to do, we shall oppose the repeal of the Test Act. After a little evasion and rebuff, my firmness got the question into the hands of the chairman, and at twelve o'clock at night we were tolerably unanimous. I was obliged to lie a-bed the next morning, when it was resumed; but I had got things in train by drawing up a paper

the night before; we are to meet upon it the 3d of Feb. and the sheriff will then call a county meeting, which will be well attended; and we shall have the honour of being the first to oppose the Presbyterians, who have most infernally and most malignantly abused Mr. Fox and his party for their bad morals in Dr. Price's last famous sermon. I must and will act from my conviction; and I am concerned to see Fox a dupe to their cunning. At this very moment they are traducing him as a very wicked man, in the very sermon which their great bell-wether has published upon this very subject; so that the old poison still remains. Fox will only make enemies in the Church, without gaining any friends among the Presbyterians, who are all with Lansdowne, Lord Stanhope, and Pitt; and Sheridan owns, that out of eleven Presbyterian members they never have one vote with them except upon the Test. I think it downright infatuation to support them; and they certainly mean rebellion, with which they will disquiet the Prince, if they are not checked during the reign of his Father, especially after what has happened in France. There never was anything so impudent, so insidious, and so base, as their intended plot in this county. . . . . There will be no contest in this county; and Pitt is here triumphant, and his opposition to the Presbyterians will do him good and Fox harm; yet these very fellows will adhere to Pitt. . . . . I am sorry to say we do not go the way to get friends either with nabobs, churchmen, or fanatics. The King I think is poorly, and the reconciliation with the Prince I think will do us some good; but these Utopian schemes of liberty in the Slave-Trade and Test Acts are all wrong, and alarm serious men, &c. &c. Yours, S. P.

I have not withheld these expressions of Dr. Parr's opinion on the Test Act and Slave Trade, though they were entirely changed in the after part of his life. Indeed, he soon began to modify them; for I find, in a collection of Tracts on the Test, the following note, in "The Right of Protestant Dissenters to a complete Toleration, by Serjeant Heywood; second edition."

This very able book was published on the application of the Dissenters for the repeal of the Test Act. It has been ascribed to Serjeant Heywood, who probably was assisted by lawyers and dissenting Clergymen. It is the only powerful book produced by the Opposition, and it wrought a total change in Dr. Parr's mind on the general principle of Tests. He always disapproved of the Sacramental Test,* and he now sees the inefficacy and the injustice of all religious Tests whatsoever. S. P.

And in the Sequel, p. 99, he thus expresses himself:

Early in 1790 I resisted Dr. Priestley and his friends in their endeavours to procure the repeal of the Test Act; and on this occasion, I not only saw the venerable person, and heard the orthodox tongue of Mr. C. but had the pleasure of acting with two or three worthy laymen of Birmingham, and with one clergyman for whom I have a great esteem.

About a month or two after Dr. Priestley and I met, and here begins a black catalogue of crimes, which have long been enveloped in darkness, but which I am now audacious enough to plant before legions of senseless and merciless calumniators in open day.

Again, at p. 52-3:

In the earlier part of my life I thought the Test Act oppressive; but in the year 1782 I very carefully and very seriously re-examined the subject, and changed my opinion. In 1790 I strenuously opposed the attempt to procure a repeal; and yet I cannot help indulging the comfortable hope, that in the progress of intellectual and moral improvement, religious animosities will at last subside; and that the restraint for which I have contended, and do now contend, will no longer be thought necessary for the public safety by the heads of that

* The reasonableness of a *Test* (says Johnson, Life of Swift) is not hard to be proved; but perhaps it would be allowed that the proper Test has not been chosen.

Church, which I have never deserted, and by the members of that Legislature, which I have never disobeyed.

He did indeed on this occasion most strenuously oppose the repeal. He leagued himself with the High Church party to oppose it; and has left his opinions on record, in a string of resolutions which are an answer to those of Mr. Walker, and were composed controversially. They were adopted by the Warwickshire county meeting, convened to oppose the repeal, with some alterations, and I am indebted to the kindness of my worthy and reverend kinsman, Mr. Charles Curtis, for a copy of them so altered, and I place them together as a literary curiosity.

Mr. Walker's Resolutions.

1. That it is not the province of the civil magistrate to direct, or to interfere with the religious opinions or practices of any members of the state, provided their conduct be not injurious to others.

2. That all the subjects of the state, conducting themselves in an equally peaceable manner, are equally entitled, not only to protection in the possession of their civil rights, but also to any civil honours, or emoluments, which are accessible to other subjects, with

The Resolutions of the Warwickshire Meeting.

1. That however the religious tenets of men may in theory be separated from their civil conduct, the strong and sometimes fatal influence of the one upon the other, has been shewn by experience in all ages and in all countries.

2. That it is the province of the British Legislature, not indeed to direct the religious opinions of any subject, but to prevent all such actions as, through the prejudice, the passions, the partial interests, or the unwarrantable claims of

out any regard to their religious opinions and practices.

3. Desiring nothing for ourselves, but the same equal and liberal treatment, to which we think all other persons, in a similar situation, are equally entitled; it is our earnest wish, that an equal participation in all civil privileges may be obtained for Dissenters of every description, to whom nothing can be objected, beside their religious opinions or practices, and who can give that security for the civil allegiance, which the State ought to require.

4. That the Protestant Dissenters of this country have always had reason to complain of unjust treatment, in being disqualified to hold offices of civil trust or power, though their behaviour has ever been peaceable and legal, and though they can even boast peculiar merit, as friends to the present government.

5. That it becomes Dissenters as men, feeling their own disgraceful situation, and the opprobrium which this reflects upon their country, to adopt every constitutional method of procuring the redress of their grievances, and thus retrieve the honour of the nation.

particular men, and combinations of men, may result from those opinions, and endanger the ecclesiastical or civil constitution of this kingdom.

3. That while all subjects of the State, conducting themselves in an equally peaceable manner, are equally protected in their civil rights, the disposal of civil honours and emoluments is, with proper restrictions, submitted by law to the judgment of the civil magistrate alone.

4. That the Dissenters, during the mild and auspicious reign of his present Majesty, have been completely exempted from every restraint upon religious liberty, and that, without being admitted to public offices of dignity and profit, they are legally secured in the ample possession of civil freedom, and in the full enjoyment of all personal rights and privileges, which appear consistent with the public safety.

5. That the ultimate object at which the Dissenters are now aiming is evidently, and almost professedly, not so much the enlargement of liberty as the acquisition of power.

6. As one principal ground of our abhorrence of the Test Laws is the prostitution of religion to interested and secular views, and as these laws therefore ought to be equally abhorred by every friend of pure religion, we invite every conscientious fellow subject of the Established Church to concur with us, assuring them that in this proceeding we sympathize with them, and we wish them to sympathize with us, and each contribute to do away this reproach and profanation of our religion. But if it should be deemed more honourable to themselves to act apart from us, we invite them, as a separate body, to come forward, and, in some decided manner, bear their testimony to a cause which does equal honour to both.

7. That with the same decided tone with which we assert our rights as men and Christians, and protest against all interference of the magistrate in the proper cause of religion, we repel with scorn the imputation of all meaner and baser views. We have no latent ambition under the mask of religion. We are as superior to hypocrisy as we are to fear. We aspire not to one

6. That the Legislature has a right to prescribe such securities as shall seem to its wisdom most expedient, for the present and future allegiance of all subjects.

7. That the Corporation and Test Acts are designed, not as instruments of persuasion to those who dissent from the Church, but as a security to the Church against all persons who may be disposed to subvert it; that they are founded upon principles, not of persecution, but of self-defence; that they are meant to operate, not against probable mischiefs, and that, in fact, they do operate, not as harsh punishments, but as salutary restraints.

8. That no test can, in the view of a wise Legislature, be considered as effectual without a religious act of some kind or other; that the Sacrament, when employed by the State as a civil test, does not therefore cease to be a religious act; that upon the very circumstance of its being received with the seriousness and sincerity which ought to accompany such an Act, the British Legislature found its confidence in the allegiance

emolument or honour of the Church. In our civil capacity we vow as pure a loyalty, as generous and ardent an affection, as liberal exertions, and as well-informed and well-principled an attachment to the constitution of our country as its most favoured and honoured subject can pretend to. Our reverence of Britain, her government and laws, is only in subordination to our reverence of God and of human nature.

8. That though the particular grievance of the Corporation and Test Acts has been the means of convening us, as part of the body of Dissenters, we think it our duty to use our utmost endeavours to procure the repeal of all penal statutes in matters of religion, as this is clearly comprehended within our just rights; and are persuaded that in this we meditate nothing new, as religious liberty ever will, and must be defective, while one such penal law is suffered to exist.

9. That in contending for our civil rights, we mean nothing hostile to the religious principles of the Church of England, or to any religious of the communicant, and that the voluntary and aggravated guilt of insincerity is no more chargeable on the law which appoints the Sacrament as a qualification for civil offices, than the guilt of perjury can be charged upon the law which, for any purpose of public utility, imposes an oath.

9. That the Corporation and Test Acts are known to have been highly salutary during the reign in which they were first passed; that every attempt made to obtain the repeal of them at the glorious æra of the Revolution was happily defeated, and that reasons of solid justice and sound policy for their continuance exist now, some with equal, and some with superior force.

10. That at a period like the present, when opinions, most widely different from the fundamental doctrines of the Established Church, and most pointedly hostile to the principles upon which religion in any form can be established in any State, are taught and disseminated with uncommon zeal and boldness, the peace and the very existence of that Church are exposed to un-

principles whatever, holding it as a maxim, that nothing of this nature is within the province of the civil magistrate; we therefore will not be considered as responsible for whatever any individual belonging to any part of the body of Dissenters, may publish for or against any religious tenets; we consider it as every man's right to do whatever, under the influence of a love of truth, he may think proper in that respect; but publication not expressly authorized by any body of men should not be imputed to that body.

10. That a permanent mode of collecting the sense and uniting the efforts of the whole body of Dissenters of every denomination, so that they may have their representatives to meet in London or elsewhere, and make proper application to the Legislature as circumstances may require, appears to be a measure well calculated to promote the desirable end above mentioned.

Samuel Shore, jun.
Chairman.

common danger; and that while the liberality of the Government is shewn in permitting such persons to propagate, without restraint, their religious tenets, it highly concerns the wisdom of the Legislature to guard against their political opinion, especially when produced and urged with all the formalities of civil claims, and under the spurious but perverted name of natural and unalienable rights.

11. That publications professedly and repeatedly proceeding from individuals of great and acknowledged weight among any bodies of men, are the surest grounds for determining what are the real tenets and the real views of the bodies, to which those individuals respectively belong.

12. That without entering into invidious comparisons between the religious opinions of different sects, we think the conduct of those persons who have conscientiously submitted to the Test and Corporation Acts more honourable in itself, more beneficial to society, and more consistent with the dictates of morality and the pre-

cepts of the Gospel, than the occasional conformity of certain Dissenters, who, mingling ambition with insincerity, have deliberately violated the spirit of the law, while they externally complied with the forms prescribed by it.

13. That the spirit of encroachment and exclusion which marks the behaviour of some Dissenters, who, in corporation towns and in other places, have gained an ascendency, is no very honourable proof of their own proficiency in that liberality which they require from the members of the Established Church, and no very favourable presage of the consequences that would arise if they should require a larger share of power.

14. That the moderation of the teachers and governors of the Established Church is worthy of the enlightened age in which they now live, and that the acknowledged and exemplary piety of all its members emboldens them to confide in the Legislature for the continuance of that protection, and of those favours which have so long been thought consistent with the dignity of Government, and so often found conducive to the general peace and prosperity of the kingdom.

15. That the connection now subsisting between the interests and honour of the Church and State has ever been found equally useful to both in times of public danger as well as of public tranquillity; and that all experiments tending to loosen that connection, should be discouraged as unwise in their principle, and unsafe in their effects.

16. That being actuated in this public declaration of our sentiments only by an unfeigned and anxious regard for the welfare of the country, and submitting the merits of the cause in the support of which we are thus honourably engaged, to the free representatives of a free people, we disdain to employ those instructions which are too often calculated to control the members of the Legislature, in the discharge of their most important trusts.

17. That knowing the rapid progress of innovation when encouraged by success, and marking the tendency of the political as well as the religious tenets avowed by some persons, whose example and whose writings have invigorated the attempts now making to obtain the repeal of the Corporation and Test Acts, we earnestly and respectfully invite all the counties to fix their attention upon the great object which has occasioned our present meeting, and to concur with us in opposing those efforts, which, after repeated disappointments, the Dissenters are prepared to renew through the whole kingdom.

That copies of the Resolutions be sent by the Chairman to Sir Robert Lawley and Sir George Shuckburgh, Barts., our worthy and independent representatives; and that the same be published in the London, Birmingham, Coventry, Oxford, Worcester, Leicester, and Northampton papers.

That the thanks of this meeting be given to the Chairman.

The confidence expressed in the Resolutions composed by Mr. Walker, and afterwards enlarged by him in an appeal to the nation, published under the title of "the Dissenters' plea," proved at least that his hopes were excited, and that he expected his cause to be benefited in the general reforms that were going on. Parr confesses that he was inclined, at this time, "to wrap up the Church in the State mantle," according to Hoadly's phrase in the attack on Sherlock.* In the application to Parliament for the repeal of the Test Act in May 1789, the majority against it was 24. In March 1791, the majority against its repeal increased to 189. Although it was then brought forward by Mr. Fox

* See Parr's letter to Lord Holland, Dec. 28, 1807, on test, toleration, &c.

himself, and much to Parr's disapprobation, and others of the party, as appears by the following extract from a letter to the Rev. Mr. Homer, dated Feb. 16, 1790.

.....I think Mr. Burke totally wrong, and that he has done more harm than ever was done before. Indeed, he never was of much use to the party, and has himself domineered over Mr. Fox's better judgment. He and Sheridan are not yet reconciled I assure you. But what signifies private reconciliation? In Parliament he accused him of something like treason; and in Parliament he should be forced to support or to retract the charge. The evil lies deep in jealousy of Sheridan's superior popularity and superior influence with Mr. Fox; and you see Pitt is taking great advantage; and sorry I am that Mr. Fox is to have the lead in the repeal business, for it will alarm the country, and not fix the Presbyterians. Have you seen Wesley's libellous and most inflammatory pamphlet, called Theodosius?

Yours, &c. S. PARR.

And the following from Lord John Townshend, to Dr. Parr:

MY DEAR SIR, *Bentinck-street, March* 1, 1790.

I am disposed with you to dread the effects of that ferment which has arisen, and which seems likely to spread so wide, and with such violence about the Test business. I regret, most heartily, that Mr. Fox did not decline to make the motion for the repeal; as I think he has unwarily plunged himself into a post of difficulty and danger into which it appeared by no means necessary for him to enter. I shall be under the necessity of giving my vote to-morrow with Mr. Fox, as I did last year on this subject. I followed my own inclination in absenting myself from their great meeting the other day; and I was glad to find that very few of the friends of our party attended the dinner. Mr. Fox's speech on the occasion was, I hear, admirable; and received with unbounded applause.

Not without loud *professions* of future attachment to him on the part of most of them. I am very much, however, of your opinion, respecting the degree of reliance which is to be placed on the sincerity of any professions from such a quarter; nor is it easy to forget their former personal rudeness to Mr. Fox, and their shameful conduct in the year eighty-four.

Excuse the haste in which I write, and believe me to be, dear Sir, with the truest respect and esteem,

Your faithful humble servant, J. TOWNSHEND.

Whether by such decisions "the unalterable laws of justice are sacrificed to the views of speculative utility, and the most sacred acts of devotion subjected to the profanation of interested and wordly views,*" I judge not. Certainly, though Mr. Pitt did not venture to repeal the Test Act, he virtually annulled it by making it impracticable to levy the penalties of the law. A Bill of Indemnity is passed annually before the period arrives at which the penalties are claimable.

Blessed be they who have contributed to so good a work (said Hoadly, in answer to Hare, p. 207), but far more statesman-like and more manly would have been a manifest repeal; with a declaratory law, giving toleration on its broadest practicable basis to all Christians of all denominations, taking away civil punishments, or civil sufferings, or civil inconveniences, on account of what are the dictates of men's private consciences, unless it immediately affect the civil government.

The practice of the American constitution proves, that the broadest practicable basis of toleration may

* Memoirs of the Rev. George Walker, p. 170.

extend not only to all sects of Christians, but even to the Jews. Yet neither to this unbelieving race, nor to the professors of Islam, can the terms futile and sophisticated be applicable, when Christian benefices are the objects of a Test, and perhaps "the unalterable law of justice" would not be quoted in their case, should they start up as popular sects, and the Mosque or the Synagogue become fashionable resorts, like the New Jerusalem, the Rehoboth, or the Cave of Adullam.

Opposing, as he did on this occasion, the pretensions, and answering the arguments of the Dissenters, nevertheless, in truth and in deed, was Parr a friend to toleration.

At Norwich, he admitted to his acquaintance, and served, with all the ardour of friendship, Mr. Bourn, the Minister of the congregation of Presbyterians there; and when, on a change of sentiments, or from the hope of increasing fortune, Mr. Bourn sought to be admitted into the Orders of the Church of England, he subscribed his testimonials, and made interest with Doctor Yonge, Bishop of Norwich, and other Prelates, in his favour. The endeavours of Mr. Bourn to obtain orders failed; but Parr's zeal did not fail. He set on foot a subscription for Mr. Bourn, and obtained a sum sufficient for the purchase of a small annuity. Of the commencement and progress of his acquaintance with Doctor Priestley he has himself given an account in "The Sequel;" and though there are many passages in his letters and writings in which he criticises the opinions, and blames the conduct of

that great Philosopher, he never fails to do justice to his great talents, his pure intentions, and his almost enthusiastic zeal. At Warwick, some of Doctor Parr's most intimate acquaintance were Dissenters. The two respectable families of Parkes,*

* To the kindness of Mrs. H. Hunt I am indebted for the following character of her father, written by Dr. Parr.

"Died, July 3, 1806, on Thursday Evening, in the 49th year of his age, Mr. William Parkes of this Borough. This excellent man discharged all the various and sacred duties of domestic life with the most irreproachable exactness and amiable tenderness. He was intelligent, punctual, and diligent in conducting the numerous and important concerns of a very extensive business; and unwearied in his endeavours to relieve the indigent, and to protect the oppressed. The activity of his benevolence was unrestrained by any narrow and invidious distinction of sect or party. His equanimity was alike undisturbed by adverse or prosperous fortune. His patriotism was firm and temperate, and his piety was rational and sincere. By constancy in his friendships, by placability in his resentments, by the ingenuous openness of his temper, by the manly independence of his spirit, and by the general conformity of his moral habits to his religious principles, he obtained, and deserved to obtain, the esteem of his neighbours, the confidence of his employers, and the unalterable regard of an enlightened and respectable acquaintance. The memory of such a person will ever be dear, and his example instructive to the poor who shared his bounty, and every class of men that had an opportunity of comtemplating his virtues.

"For the space of twelve months he laboured under a lingering and complicated malady, of which neither the causes could be ascertained, nor the effects resisted by the most skilful physicians both in the capital and in the neighbourhood. But he supported with unshaken fortitude the pains of disease and the languor of decay; and, with the unfeigned resignation of a Christian, he looked forward to death as the passage appointed by heaven to a glorious immortality."

Mr. Twamley, Mr. Field, and the elder Mr. Crompton, and the Cottons of Kenilworth, were in the list of his nearest friends; and he continued intimate with most of them till his death. Mr. Field, by Parr's appointment, attended his funeral; and of his own accord delivered an eloquent discourse on his death the Sunday after.

For Mr. Corrie and Mr. Yates he entertained sincere respect; he justly appreciated their learning and their worth; nor did the differences of opinion on religious subjects in any degree weigh against them in his esteem, nor against the amiable Dr. A. Rees, the truly conscientious Mr. Lindsay, the firm controversialist and staunch polemic Mr. Belsham, nor against the accomplished Mr. Shepherd; with all of whom he occasionally corresponded. His own opinions were the mature fruit of study. The first beam of the morning, and sometimes the midnight lamp, were the witnesses of his intense lucubrations; and that which made him wise conduced to make him charitable. His religion was that of Jesus; but it was not "zeal without knowledge."—It was not the wild fanaticism of the heated brain, nor the sordid calculation of the hardened heart.—It was not the fermentation of Methodism, nor the bitter sediment of Pharisaical pride. Though warmed by fervour, it never was heated to fanaticism. He had drank of the living water to the refreshment of his soul; and his piety, ardent in youth, settled into sober practical habits of thinking for, and acting with, his fellow men. It adorned his life—it com-

forted his age; and it so elevated his departing spirit, that he expired after long suffering with a placid expression upon his countenance, and with an ejaculation of hope and trust upon his lips.

Of his particular religious opinions I shall leave him to speak for himself. Because he tolerated all opinions, he has been sneered at as believing lukewarmly. Such a calumny could only arise from his warm expressions in favour of charity and toleration. All sober discussion of religious opinions he admitted and entered into. Often would he concede to a certain point; and this concession has been mistaken and represented as entire. The virtues of particular men belonging to particular sects, he honoured, as he did all virtue. The views of such men he would promote, when he knew them to be sincere; and he would often teach them where the strength of their cause lay. Knowing very much, he was not fearful to discuss, nor penurious in imparting a portion of his knowledge. Thus was he sometimes mistaken for a partisan, where he was only an instructor and enlightener. How truly he was attached to the Church of England, all the dissenters with whom he conversed on the subject could prove, *if they would.*

You are aware (says the manly Mr. Shepherd of Gateacre to me in a letter dated August 12, 1827), that our late friend's friendly intercourse with Dissenters has caused his sincerity as a Churchman to be called in question. But I can testify that, from many communications with him in free conversation, I am sincerely of opinion, that the Established Church had never a more zealous admirer or a firmer friend.

His epithet "non-con." was never spared to their faces; and I have reason to believe that to some it gave offence. The sectarian spirit he abhorred—the sincere worshipper, of whatever sect he might be, he loved. Even the Theist, when sincere, unostentatious, unpresuming, and not profane, was not merely tolerated by Dr. Parr, himself a firm believer in the truths of the Gospel. In a volume of Tracts, formerly in his library, the first of which is "Hollis's Free Thoughts," &c. &c. he makes the following notes.

Mr. Hollis gave Dr. Parr his "Apology" in the year 1809, and in the summer of 1812 he sent him his other works. Mr. Hollis leads a studious and blameless life at High Wycombe, Bucks, where Dr. Parr sometimes visits him. Dr. Parr had the good fortune to introduce Mr. H. to his enlightened and respectable pupil, Peregrine Dealtry, who lives at Bradenham, four miles distant from Wickham, and, though Mr. H. seldom pays visits, he never fails to visit Mr. D. when Dr. P. is with him. Mr. H. is confessedly an unbeliever; and his unbelief is certainly the result of laborious and serious enquiry; but he never writes profanely; he is charitable and respectful in his judgment upon the character of Christians; he devotes his time and his fortune to doing good; and, be his errors what they may, Dr. P. is bound, by the principles and spirit of Christianity, to love and to honour such a moral agent as Mr. Hollis. S. P.

Dr. Parr knew Mr. Hollis personally, and considered him one of the most serious, upright, and benevolent of human beings. They often conversed upon the most important subjects; and whatsoever be the errors of Hollis, he supported them with much ability, and without any taint of acrimony or profaneness.

The uncharitable and sour worshipper of the skeleton and dry bones of doctrine, the bigot, and

the scorner, and the sneerer, were sure to meet with summary and condign punishment at his hands. I have more than once seen him rise up to smite the scorner who interposed his jests, in the discussion of the awful subject of religion.

He believes that, wheresoever imperious and turbulent teachers have usurped an excessive ascendency over the minds of an ignorant and headstrong multitude, religion will always be disgraced, morals always vitiated, and society always endangered. But the *real* interests, the *real* honour, the *real and most important* cause of the established Church, he ever has supported, and will support, as he also ever has contended, and will contend in favour of a *liberal, efficient,* and *progressive toleration.*

CHAPTER VII.

Sequel—Letter to Irenopolis, &c.

But the test, and all party discussions, were shortly after swallowed up in another vortex; in attacks and defences, in Burke, Paine, Rous, Mackintosh, and a variety of other writers, the approvers or disapprovers of the Revolutionary system. The first act of that terrible drama, the French Revolution, was now over, and the curtain had fallen upon the ruins of the chief distinctions of the privileged orders, titles, and feudalities. More awful scenes and events were preparing; and all men in all nations, capable of ratiocination, sympathized or participated in the gathering interest.

The hosts of civilized men were arrayed against each other in two mighty phalanxes; and expectation stood breathless awaiting the stormy fury, and the hideous shock of battle. In the beginning the battle in this country raged only in words and menaces; in the din and clamour of dispute, in reproaches and insults; and the actions and words of men were watched, and noted so jealously, that it was not easy for the most innocent and unassuming

to pass without calumny. At this crisis Parr, who had separated himself from the high church party, and became intimately connected with Mr. Fox and the Whigs, stood eminent as a butt for the shafts of faction to aim at. In consequence, he was assailed by all the warfare of petty malignity; some of his parishioners were insulted as disaffected, and he himself was privately traduced as a Jacobin. At length he was exhibited publicly as disloyal in the newspapers of the Government; and thus, from an anonymous letter, was induced to vent his feelings on the subject of politics, and the French Revolution, in a work intitled, "A Sequel to the printed Paper lately circulated in Warwickshire, by the Rev. Charles Curtis, brother of Alderman Curtis, a Birmingham Rector; London, for Charles Dilly, 1792." The Preface to "The Sequel" is one of the most finished morsels of Parr's pen. It is a little cabinet memorial of his literary powers, and one of the best patterns of his laboured style. It is, moreover, full of fine sentiments on the evanescent nature and the small interest of personal quarrels. Yet this gem is not unsullied and of the purest water; it is too much bespotted with imagery, and there is surely no propriety in the expression "noise of a bubble," or in the sentiment that opposition is likely to bestow "a rich plumage upon noisy flutter and unavailing struggles." Surely it is much more likely to snatch it away.

As to the controversy introduced and carried on in "The Sequel," I fear few persons at the time deemed it of much importance; most men, indeed,

thought the solemn asseveration of a gentleman should have been admitted; and, after all, there was not much dignity in drawing together this artillery of learning and argument, *if* there were *no* solidity to be crushed, and only feebleness to be annoyed. And, let me add, that, in the introduction of the name of Alderman Curtis, and of the subsequent remark in the note,* about his personal appearance, there was not only no dignity, but there was great indecorum and petulance. As a party man, Sir William Curtis had risen to eminence among his fellow-citizens, and to high reputation as an Englishman. By a popular election, in the most populous and most commercial city of the most enlightened country in the civilized world, he was chosen to represent the freemen of London in Parliament; and for thirty-six years, with the exception of one Parliament only, he continued their representative. By his activity in business, his deep-searching sagacity, and his native powers of intellect, he gained their confidence, and deserved it. With manly boldness he avowed his opinions, and his constituents were never deluded by false colours, or hypocritical pretences. During the whole of his political life he was a Tory in principle and in practice; and with a firm step, and unalterable steadiness, he supported the measures of the Government during the perilous times of the French war. I hope he will long enjoy, in health and peace, the honours and the fortune he has acquired

* Sequel, p. 33.

by consistency and integrity; and if this page should ever meet his eye, that he will consider it as a tribute of affection, as well as a declaration of the truth.

The political part of the Sequel, divested of the personal matter, will alone be re-published; and it treats of a subject so momentous that it redeems, in great measure, this miserable squabble from the imputation of unnecessary and venomous aggression. For if Parr deemed that these anonymous letters were only a portion of the attack upon his character, encouraged by a faction, and circulated as a slow poison through society, he was justified in vindicating himself.

I know it was the fashion to brand him as a Jacobin; because he advocated the cause of freedom, and enlisted himself under the political banner of Mr. Fox. Yet how little his sentiments favoured democracy, and how averse he was to the excesses of the French revolutionary party, he here shews; and in reviewing some of his other works, we shall find that true Whig principles, the real English Constitution in Church and State, were solidly and immoveably engrafted in his mind.

Copy of a letter from Dr. Farmer to Dr. Parr.

DEAR SIR, *Amen Corner, June* 15, 1792.

At my last return to Cambridge I found you had honoured the College with your portrait, and I am happy to thank you in the name of *ourselves* and our *successors*. Since I have been in town I have seen a *portrait* of *your mind*, in which I (an old *Tory*) can scarcely wish for an alteration of a feature. I am dear Sir, yours, &c. &c. R. FARMER.

The question of prerogative, discussed by him in the Sequel, had been discussed by him before, when he was about to re-publish, with notes, the Dissertation on Whigs and Tories, by Rapin; and his remarks on the subject will be found among those notes which are now re-printed.

The Sequel touches upon another subject of great interest; and that subject it was, probably, which roused Parr's resentment, and led the way to this attack. His house was threatened by the Birmingham incendiaries at the time of the riots in 1791, and his library* was removed from his house in his absence, to secure it from the fancied danger, by Mrs. Parr. Considerable expense was incurred, and much injury done to the books; so that Parr could not but feel some bitterness on account of that which he had suffered. Of the Birmingham riots the Sequel contains an everlasting memorial.

> Of the seeming regularity of contrivance, the strange chaos of levity and ferocity, the temporary extinction of common prudence, common justice, and common humanity in private companies, the most shameless language of triumph in some diurnal and monthly publications, the vestiges of such remorseless and ill disguised approbation in certain well educated men, as in times past would have steeled the heart, for participation in the Massacre of St. Bartholomew.

By remonstrance in conversation, and sometimes

* The books were at first hastily huddled together in a barn near Hatton, and afterwards sent to Magdalen College, Oxford, when the packages were piled up under the principal, but disused, gateway of the College, by permission of the President, Dr. Routh, and the expense of near £100 was incurred.

by instruction from the pulpit, he most pointedly condemned this unsocial spirit,* and one phrase he has marked with indelible reprobation. "Church

* Bishop Bennet thus expresses himself in the following extract from a letter, dated

"*Dublin Castle, Jan.* 11, 1792.

.....You do justice to my sentiments of Mr. Fox, whom I have always esteemed as a man and a minister, and wish political accidents had thrown him on a different side. Party runs high here also; but it is a party, not against English ministers, but English government. On the eminence on which I am placed, I hear the whistling of the storm before it has reached the lower regions.

> Et mea parva rates vicinis sueta movere
> Littoribus, notique legens confinia ponti,
> Nunc primum dat vela Notis, portusque fideles
> Linquit, et Hadriacas audet spectare procellas.

Your book, I suppose, is not out yet. I am sorry you attack the Church, for fear of consequences to your own advancement; and hope you mean individual Churchmen, whose narrow and illiberal bigotry you are welcome to lash till you are tired.

I tremble for your books and property, and rejoice such villainy was prevented (when the former are in order, remember that you have a claim on me for several which you wanted). The rascals who call themselves Churchmen, and disgrace the cause they pretend to serve, are in fact indifferent to any cause or any motive but plunder, and would burn our houses just as readily as yours."

I shall have occasion to mention the names of Bennet and Burke hereafter in connection. Mark here the difference of language and of sentiment between the staunch Tory and the apostate Whig. See "Epistolary Correspondence of Right Hon. Edmund Burke and French Lawrence, LL.D." letter 2, page 240, from Burke to Lawrence. "I think the efforts of the faction

and King" was the watch-word, or yell of encouragement of the incendiaries whilst they were committing their outrages, and at the time the constant toast of the high party. "I will not drink that toast (cried Parr at a public dinner), nor will I suffer it to be given in my presence. It was the toast of Jacobites, and it is the yell of Incendiaries: it means a Church *without* the Gospel, and a King *above* the Laws."

I shall not enter farther into this topic. Far be it from me to rake together the embers of this detestable story! Of those concerned in it many are gone to their account; and of the active incendiaries, if any still survive, none are so shameless as to boast of their exploits.

Whatsoever were the sentiments, or even the bitterness of mind, that induced Dr. Parr to open the sluices of his anger in "The Sequel," it is consolatory, on reflecting, to know that they were soon appeased or neutralized. "The Sequel" is dated January 1792, and in May of the same year ap-

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are not at all abated, and that the evil they intend equally appears in their desperate boldness, and in their insidious hypocrisy. They have changed some of their notes since the riots at Birmingham. Now that their anniversary of toryism has produced arson, and given it a direction *they did not wish*, they are the martyrs of order, good government, and sobriety. But "peace* to all such;" a thing, by the by, they do not over eagerly desire," &c.

* The sentence on Constance and her paramour, worked so admirably into the utmost pathos of tragedy by Sir Walter Scott, forcibly reminds us of this Burkeian phrase.

peared "A Letter from Irenopolis to the Inhabitants of Eleutheropolis; or, a Serious Address to the Dissenters of Birmingham;" and in 1809 I dined with Dr. Parr at the Rev. Mr. Curtis's table.

The provocative cause, or that which was at least pretended by the incendiaries of Birmingham at the time, as productive of the riots, was a dinner, held in the town of Birmingham, to commemorate the French Revolution.

The party of gentlemen who met upon that occasion were of opinion, that the dinner was not the real cause; that it was averred as such only to serve the purpose; that, in fact, the riots had been planned under the dark influence of a Machiavelian policy to strike terror into the revolutionary faction, and to shew the country, by a *salutary example*, to what horrors anarchy must lead;* at all events, that the Government was criminal for not providing against any possible commotion, arising out of the treasonable libel then published. So they were resolved to hold another Meeting, to show their fellow-subjects and the Government that they had been calumniated on the former occasion.

The letter to Irenopolis was written hastily by Parr to dissuade the party from holding their dinner; and perhaps no effusion from the pen of any learned man was ever poured out so rapidly, with so much soundness of argument, and clearness of style, and vigour of sentiment. As the publication of this

* See debate in the House of Commons on Mr. Whitbread's motion; and Mr. Burke's letter, before quoted.

letter was committed to my charge by Dr. Parr, and as it will illustrate the method followed by him in writing, and show some of his habits of thinking and acting, it will not be superfluous to enter into a detail of it.

Extract from Dr. Parr's first letter to my brother Dr. Edward Johnstone, dated May 14, 1792, Monday.

This is an important letter, and keep the contents of it secret. At our Quarter Sessions I was told that the Dissenters intended to meet again in July, but I thought it impossible. More or less of the same report I heard afterwards, and still was unwilling to believe. But yesterday I heard it again, and I believe it. Dear Sir, I am frozen with horror; tell me, I beseech you, whether it is so, and if it is, grant me a request, a great request. Some thoughts occurred to me last night, which I will throw into a friendly pamphlet to dissuade the Dissenters from this frenzy. This morning I have written half the pamphlet, and by to-morrow I will finish it. It will be short and serious. It shall be written over again and printed by Thomson at Birmingham, who shall have the profits, and give me twelve copies. I hope that you or your brother will undertake to correct the press, and Thomson must be instructed to finish most expeditiously and carefully. My name must not be prefixed, or indeed, known. Write to me directly, and be sure send me exact information. I am, dear Sir, yours most sincerely, S. PARR.

This was written about 3 o'clock; it is now 6, and the pamphlet is finished. It cost me six hours and an half, and was done at two sittings in one day. I am getting it transcribed for the press.

2nd Letter, May 16th. Extract.

This letter shall not depend upon the Dissenters not having made up their minds to dine, for I shall publish it if they have taken any one step to give alarm, and I am doing them a substantial act of friendship if they have wisdom enough to think so. My judgment is unalterably fixed upon every line of the

book. I have written with great politeness, impartiality, and vigour.

3d Letter. Extract May 17.

It was at Mr. Bree's, where I drank tea on Sunday, that I heard a confirmation of the report, and as I rode home at night a thought struck me that I should endeavour to prevent it. The forge was set to work on Monday morning, and the furnace was very hot till about six in the afternoon, and though the work has not been much upon the anvil, it is pretty well done. Now, John, as I have not had time to polish, and scarcely even to correct, a few expressions will sometimes float in my mind as capable of improvement, and to prevent all retardation of the press, I will put down a few to paper. You must know, John, that the Socinian writers publish their books in Holland or Poland with the quaint names of Eleutheropolis or Irenopolis, and I think it wont be amiss to imitate them in the title page (though to be sure, my boy, very few of your Oxford Doctors will understand it), let therefore the title run thus:

A Letter from Irenopolis, &c. &c.

Letters 4, 5, 6. Extract, corrections and additions.

Date the book Thursday, 17th May. Pray do me not the favour, but the justice, to correct two enormous errors in my London book, "the Sequel." Read, and tell everybody else to read, page 42, for "luminous," "profound," twice it was corrected—twice the printer blundered. I wrote sense, and meant to be polite to Hurd. Nonsense and rudeness were printed.

Letter 7. Extract. Monday 21st.

Bishop Hare and Dr. Bentley read quo, not quod, never mind your editions, they are Birmingham coin.

8th Letter.

John, John, as you are only a novitiate, my boy, in correcting the press, I must desire you to have a hawk's eye, before the final printing off. Get the credit of sending out the only correctly printed book I ever did send out. This is the ex-

cellence of living in a town where there is a printer; an author can then do as he will. Priestley is a veteran in correcting the press, and a sloven about style; in both points the very reverse of me. Farewell. Urge Thomson, assist, watch, encourage him, and if needs be, scold him. You see the propriety of my joining Dilly's name with Johnson's. It so happens, I believe, that they are both Dissenters; and it further happens, that they are both as honest friendly men as ever lived; and so I don't think it impossible for both to escape everlasting flames in hell. But you know I never dogmatize on theological subjects, and therefore, if Dilly or Johnson have fears, I must refer them to deeper casuists and sounder divines than myself; and you know that of those there is a plentiful store in your beloved Oxford. They catch at a glance what I cannot discover in a year. They are bold where I am timid—they hate where I love. They call down the thunderbolt upon persons whom I hope to meet in the portals of the third heaven. Christianity is with me, and its pretended offspring, Orthodoxy, is with them.

9th, 10th, and 11th, fidgetty letters, about delay, stops, alterations, and additions.

12. Extract.

I wish to close with a vigorous declaration of my principles, and shew respect to the church, as well as contempt for high church. I have therefore altered and rather enlarged the conclusion, and your own good sense will shew you the propriety of this. The book must come out on Monday, &c. Mind, in p. 39, I have put a double line under REAL, because it must be printed, not in Italics, but small capitals in all three places, and so must the word IMPORTANT be in small capitals, for this is an act of respect and justice which I owe to the church, and my own situation and opinions as a churchman. You will not be surprised at the anxiety I feel, when I consider how many alterations there were yesterday and to-day, and before I see them the book must come forth. John, you have a very weighty task, a very serious charge. I confide in your sense and friendship to perform them well. I take it for

granted, my boy, that suspicion will fall on me. You will not, I know, tell lies, but will, perhaps, put off by saying it is my style.* I have just received a pompous foolish book addressed to Priestley. It was given to me by an orthodox Doctor, and it was written by a noisy priest. He gave only one copy of his book away, and that to the Lord Chancellor, and luckily too, just as he was going out; and so he will get nothing, which is all he cares about. He is a fine pompous fellow, and if Priestley had a grain of common sense he would not answer him. He calls himself a Foxite, and yet he has been trying, to my knowledge, what he can get among the Pittites, and he is of a very bad breed. I shall not read his book. I think Priestley will stare at this address, for he is a thorough partizan, and so are you, Jack, disposed to be, and so you would be, were it not for my admonitions.

John, my love of truth makes me say, p. 35, the preceding parts, &c. You see that I turn the scale even against myself, for you know it went to press on Wednesday, but I date Thursday. You will have a hard day's work of it, and I think the book cannot be out till Monday afternoon.

Remember the old proverb, "most haste worst speed," for I would rather have the book delayed for a day than permit one single blunder in a word, a syllable, or even a stop.

Upon the whole I think it a good pamphlet, and hope it will do good, and either terrify or convince your mad caps. I hope you like the idea of a progressive toleration, because it is mine. For instance, I would have voted with Fox the other day, and at better times, and with a much better spirit between Churchmen and Dissenters, and not till then would I repeal the Test Act. I do not love tests a bit better than you do; but I understand them better, and they are evils, which evil

* In his correspondence with the printer and bookseller, when Bellenden was in the press, Parr always feigned another name; Richard Davy, when Dr. Davy was the amanuensis, and other names according to his whim. Whether the secret transpired, I know not. Steevens he hated, and suspected, so was particularly desirous to keep the real author unknown to him.

spirits make necessary evils. Neither Priestley nor Hoadly are adepts in moderation. It is a rare, and, I therefore believe, a difficult virtue; but when once understood and seriously attempted, it becomes easy and comfortable.

13. Extract.

Let me have sixteen copies; six sent hither, and ten Johnson must be directed to dispose of thus: one Prince of Wales; one Duke of Portland; one Earl of Dartmouth; one Mr. Sheridan, at Nerot's Hotel; one Mr. Mackintosh, 32, Charlotte-street, Portland-place; one Mr. J. Tweddell, 2, Brick-court, Temple; one Dr. Priestley; one Mr. Wakefield; one Rev. Mr. Martyn; one Lord Grey. Where I say, "I confess with sorrow," put "I *must* confess *then* with sorrow." You see the alteration includes only two words, *must* and *then*. I am fond of these particles, and I am sure that Voltaire and Marmontel in French, and our Johnson, neglected them too much. But with me it is not so, nor with other writers. I feel the anxiety of Addison, who would cancel a sheet to alter the position of a common particle, and it was by this parental care of his words, that they put forth such beautiful blossoms, and such delicious fruits. You have done well, well, well.

14. Extract.

Let me know how your book sells at Birmingham, and how the Dissenters and Churchmen take it. I am very just to both, of which, however, they may not be sensible, as some of them are so little in the habit of practising justice. I forgot to send a copy to Mr. Fox, but have written to Johnson to send him one. Thomson must allow me this.

15. Sunday, June 4th.

16. Soliciting subscriptions for a certain Greek scholar, to preserve him from want, and to buy him an annuity.

Yesterday I received a very handsome acknowledgment from the Dissenters of your town, and a most friendly well-written letter from Mr. Russell.

The following are copies of the acknowledgment and letter here alluded to, and of Parr's answer.

At a meeting of the Committee appointed by the Societies belonging to the new and old Meeting Houses in Birmingham, held on Friday, June 22, 1792.

Resolved unanimously, that the thanks of the Committee be respectfully presented to the Rev. Dr. Parr, for the candour, urbanity, and benevolence which he has displayed in the eloquent and energetic pamphlet lately addressed to the Dissenters under the title of "A Letter from Irenopolis to the Inhabitants of Eleutheropolis." WILLIAM RUSSELL, Chairman.

REV. SIR, *Birmingham, June* 23, 1792.

It is with much satisfaction that I enclose you the Resolutions of a Committee who are the representatives of as honest and independent a body of men as the kingdom contains. Smarting under unmerited suffering and disgrace, they are feelingly alive to every generous and benign attempt to restore peace, order, and good neighbourhood in this distracted town. Their tribute of thanks therefore naturally follows your excellent and nervous address, and I assure you they are deeply sensible of the dignity of your sentiments, and the uprightness of your intentions; and that they will long retain their gratitude and respect for a character which so forcibly delineates the man of honour, the Christian, and the good citizen.

I am gratified in the present opportunity of begging you to accept my fervent wishes for the prolongation of your valuable life, and for the still further extension of your sphere of usefulness and enjoyment, and of assuring you that I remain with very high respect, Rev. Sir, your sincere and obedient,

WILLIAM RUSSELL.

Dr. Parr's reply to Mr. Russell.

DEAR SIR, *June* 26, 1792.

On Sunday last I had the satisfaction of hearing from you that the Committee appointed by the members of the new and old Meeting Houses at Birmingham, had unanimously resolved

to present their thanks to me, as the writer of a "Letter from Irenopolis to the Inhabitants of Eleutheropolis."

Permit me to request, that you would convey to the gentlemen of that Committee my respectful acknowledgments for the honour which they have done me; my earnest wishes for the speedy and total extinction of those animosities which have lately disgraced this neighbourhood, and my sincere approbation of the judicious and temperate measures which the Dissenters of Birmingham have adopted for preserving the tranquillity of their town. I beg leave to thank you personally for the very polite and friendly wishes you have expressed towards myself. Be assured, Sir, that my talents such as they are, will, upon every proper occasion, be employed in discountenancing or correcting those prejudices which my heart is incapable of feeling for one moment, and which my judgment represents to me as irreconcileable to the interest of society, to the precepts of religion, and to the benevolent spirit of that heavenly teacher, whose authority we all reverence, and whose example we are all bound to imitate, however divided we may be in our opinions about the metaphysical explanations of his nature. I have the honour to be, dear Sir, your very faithful well-wisher and obedient servant, S. PARR.

Perhaps it is not improper for me to add, the very day after I had received the advertisement, in which they renounce all intention of meeting on the 14th of July next, I took an opportunity of sending it to my printer, and of accompanying it with such observations as will probably do them no discredit.

Such was the effect of this extraordinary pamphlet—the best, the calmest, the purest of all Dr. Parr's literary productions; and the most approved by all sober thinkers. One part of its excellence arises from its being an extemporaneous production. It was the composition of eight hours at most; and is, therefore, less loaded with learning and illustration than any other of his printed works. He had no time to trick out the phraseology in the

borrowed garb of quotation, of which he was so fond; nor to spoil the freshness of his first thinking by closer, or tighter, or more gaudy phrases. The letter is the best model of Parr's didactic and unlaboured style. It is a work of peacefulness, written in the spirit of peace, and to insure the practice of it. Whether Mr. Pitt ever read Bellendenus or its learned preface I am not informed; but I do know that he read "The Letter of Irenopolis to Eleutheropolis," and that he was lavish in his commendation upon it. It was put into his hands by Dr. Maltby when Mr. Pitt was upon a visit at Buckden Palace.

These letters, and extracts from letters, sufficiently illustrate the manner of Parr towards his younger correspondents, and his manner of doing business, and the constant stream of instruction that flowed from him. In the winter, 1790-1791, I passed some weeks at Hatton, when Mr. Richard Porson was one of the guests, and became then conversant with Parr's domestic habits, and formed the beginning of that intimate acquaintance and progressively confidential friendship, on which he put an indelible stamp by his dying declaration in March 1825. During this long interval of thirty-five years, his mode of living, and his habits of thinking and acting on common occasions, were so frequently displayed to my observation, that it would be no difficult task to write the annals of his busy life. But I have intentionally abstained from entering into minute detail. "Destitute of dignity and barren of utility" do I deem it to drag the

illustrious man out of his privacy, where he only does what every other man is compelled to do, and says, with no better grace, what every other man must say.

From the ordinary occurrences of life, as they influence the conduct of extraordinary men, the biographer collects such scattered rays as may be concentrated into one bright assemblage of truth, upon the character which he has undertaken to delineate.—Parr's Sequel, preface, p. 5.

The mention of a certain Greek scholar, and the desire expressed in the 13th extract, that copies of the Irenopolis be sent to Mr. J. Tweddell, Mr. Mackintosh, and Mr. Wakefield, naturally introduce some account of Parr's connection with these celebrated men.

Mr. Richard Porson remained at Hatton in the winter, 1790-1, collecting materials for future works, and enriching his mind with the stores of Parr's library, and of his conversation. He rose late, seldom walked out, and was employed in the library till dinner, reading and taking notes from books, but chiefly the latter. His notes were made in a small distinct text of the most exquisitely neat writing I have ever beheld. He was very silent; and except to Parr, whom he often consulted, and to whose opinions he seemed to defer, he seldom spoke a word. His manners, in a morning indeed, were rather sullen, and his countenance gloomy. After dinner he began to relax, but was always under restraint with Parr and the ladies.

At night, when he could collect the young men of the family together, and especially if Parr was absent

from home, he was in his glory. The charms of his society were then irresistible. Many a midnight hour did I spend with him, listening with delight, while he poured out torrents of various literature—the best sentences of the best writers, and sometimes the ludicrous beyond the gay—pages of Barrow, whole letters of Richardson, whole scenes of Foote, favourite pieces from the periodical press; and, among them, I have heard recited "The Orgies of Bacchus."

His abode in the house became at last so tiresome to Mrs. Parr, that she insulted him in a manner which I shall not record. From this time, the visits of Porson were not repeated at Hatton; and though there was no open breach of friendship, on *his part*, there was no continuance of kindness, notwithstanding Dr. Parr's strenuous endeavours to secure his comforts and independence, by combining with other scholars, and using every effort of his interest to obtain an annuity for him. The following letters will demonstrate how zealously affected he was to the cause.

From the Rev. John Cleaver Banks, to the Rev. Dr. Parr.

DEAR SIR, *West Wickham, near Croydon.*

On my return to this place yesterday I was favoured with your letter of the 6th, containing a draft upon Messrs. Down and Thornton for fifty pounds, which should be placed to the account of Mr. Coke's liberality, and thirty-one pounds ten shillings to that of Mr. Dewes, the Rev. Mr. Willes, and Dr. Johnstone; the receipt of which I hereby acknowledge (£10. 10*s.* for the Bishop of Cork, and a draft for £25. 10*s.* on account of Dr. Routh and Lord Ferrers; that is, £15 for Dr.

Routh, and £10. 10*s*. for Lord Ferrers. Raine received £15 on your own account). Many thanks are due to you for your unremitting zeal in the cause of our worthy friend, which I am persuaded no one has more at heart than yourself. We have received the most encouraging professions from all quarters; and I believe if we were to cast up the sums already secured, they would exceed fifteen hundred. When they verge upon £2000 we shall stop. Lambton wrote a very handsome letter to Raine upon the subject, which seems to have excited in him the most lively interest, as it will do in every lover of learning and strict integrity. On Saturday last I was at Windsor, and, during my stay there, took an opportunity of calling upon Goodall. I am sorry to say his health is not so well as all his friends must wish. We conversed sometime upon the subject of our friend's case. It appears that he has many zealous friends at Eton, who are warmly disposed to countenance our plan with all its imperfections. He, as well as many other of his acquaintance, seemed to think we had been too indiscriminate in our applications; which should have been regulated by the known dispositions and wishes of the object and friends of this contribution. I was exceedingly pleased with an instance of candour and liberality, which, as times go, are articles of rare occurrence in Bishops. Jacob Bryant takes every opportunity of shewing his resentment against Porson, and was one day proceeding in his usual invectives, when the *present* Bishop of Salisbury checked him with a severe rebuke for his want of charity. Such things are not to be expected from Bishops now-a-days. Your account of the Bishop of C———'s behaviour amazes me. I was, indeed, aware of the intemperance of his politics, and the austerity of his religion, but I never before had reason to doubt his sense of decency and propriety. His behaviour in a former instance might have awakened my suspicion, but I was willing at that time to impute it to carelessness, and want of leisure; or, in short, any other cause, rather than the true one. But surely such a flagrant breach of decorum cannot be ascribed to any other motive than a rudeness of disposition, which, in this instance, seems to have been irritated by some wound or assault on his orthodoxy. Believe me, Sir, your faithful and sincere humble servant,

JOHN CLEAVER BANKS.

There are other letters to the same effect from Dr. C. Burney.

Extract of a letter from T. W. Coke, Esq. dated "Holkham, June 23, 1792," to Dr. Parr.

DEAR SIR,

Less said by you in behalf of Mr. Porson's great mind would have been sufficient, without referring me to a second person to induce me to contribute by a small gift of £50 to his future comfort (which I send a draft for).*

The Bishop of Cork says,

MY DEAR DOCTOR, *Dublin, Oct.* 27, 1792.

With this you will receive a note, payable at sight, for my Porson account, &c.

So active was Parr in Porson's behalf!

Notwithstanding these endeavours, Porson privately sneered and jeered, and even once lampooned him under the name of Doctor Bellenden. Parr, however, always did justice to the accomplishments

* Mr. Coke's correspondence contains his acquiescence in many requests of the same kind, for Parr was himself always ready to comply with demands from others, and never hesitated, therefore, to beg for objects he deemed deserving. Mr. Coke's correspondence with Dr. Parr begins with the publication of Sermons on Education, and ended only in January 1825, with the usual present of Holkham game for the birthday. The consistency maintained in politics by this chief of the country gentlemen of England, his elevated and independent spirit, his love of civil and religious liberty, his devotedness to the whole old English constitution, his domestic virtues, his munificent hospitality, and his liberality, are all illustrated by his own correspondence; but I hope to obtain from Dr. Parr's letters to Mr. Coke words and expressions which will enable me to pourtray with accuracy his character.

of this wonderful man. In his copy of Porson's letters to Archdeacon Travis are these words, "By the learned Author I was presented with this book, and let him who will answer it, I shall exclaim, μετὰ Λέσβιον ποιητὴν."*

And in the remarks on Combe's statement he says,

But Mr. Porson, the re-publisher of Heyne's Virgil,† is a giant in literature, a prodigy in intellect, a critic, whose mighty atchievements leave imitation panting at a distance behind them, and whose stupendous powers strike down all the restless and aspiring suggestions of rivalry into silent admiration and passive awe. He that excels in great things, so as not to be himself excelled, shall readily have pardon from me if he errs in little matters better adapted to little minds. But I should expect to see the indignant shades of Bentley, Hemsterhius, and Valckenaer rise from their grave, and rescue their illus-

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* Erasmi adagia "Post Lesbium Cantorem," p. 186.—Franc. 1646. folio. Lacedæmonicum proverbium, hâc natum occasione, quemadmodum narrat Suidas. Cum Lacedæmoniorum res seditionibus tumultuarentur, consultum oraculum jussit, uti Lesbium cantorem accerserent. Accersitus itaque Terpander Lesbius, nimirum, Antissæus, et ad Lacedæmonios missus. Is canendo sic illorum animos delinivit, ut seditionem omnem sedaret, redactis in concordiam civibus. Quâ ex re factum est, ut Lacedæmonii Lesbiis cantoribus primas in arte musicâ partes tribuerent, et si quem alium canentem audissent, protinus dicerent: μετὰ λέσβιον ᾠδόν, id est; Post Lesbium musicum.

† In this re-publication there are many errors of the press—but Porson is not to be blamed for them. They arose from the negligence of a stupid corrector. The book was published professedly as Porson's—in fact, he furnished a few meagre notes only, and had nothing to do with the printing.

trious successor from the grasp of his persecutors, if any attempt were made to immolate him on the altars of dulness and avarice, for his sins of omission, or his sins of commission, as a corrector of the press. Enough, and more than enough, have I heard of his little oversights, in the hum of those busy inspectors who peep and pry after one class of defects only, in the prattle of finical collectors, and the prattle of unlearned and half-learned gossips. But I know that spots of this kind are lost in the splendour of this great man's excellencies. I know that his character towers far above the reach of such puny objectors. I think that his claims to public veneration are too vast to be measured by their short and crooked rules, too massy to be lifted by their feeble efforts, and even too sacred to be touched by their unhallowed hands. Be it granted, then, that the difference between the critiques is great. But I contend that the difference between the works themselves is *more* great, and I add, that the difference between the artists is *greater still.* —Remarks, p. 13.

His metrical conundrums he was wont to smile at,* and in the correspondence with Archdeacon Butler this phrase is used more than once. There is only one short note of compliment from Porson among Parr's correspondence, the rest having been

* Archdeacon Butler will not allow this term to be applicable to Porson; "Porson's metrical canons are perfectly just, and infallible, and clear, and therefore *not* conundrums. *Burney's are mere conundrums* in many cases. I think I was the first to give them that name, and that Parr adopted it, thinking it just."

Dr. Maltby entirely agrees with Archdeacon Butler about the soundness of Porson's metrical canons, and thinks that the term "conundrum" might be applied with far more justice to some of the fiats of foreign scholars, whom Parr, in the decline of his life, was wont to praise for their metrical knowledge above that of Porson.

purloined. There is one from Porson's brother the schoolmaster.

There are many other of Dr. Parr's remarks on the character of Porson interspersed throughout the correspondence. I shall close this account with an extract of a letter from Mr. Cleaver Banks to Dr. Parr, as it throws light on the theological opinions of Professor Porson.

MY DEAR SIR, *West Wickham, near Croydon, Surrey.*

Our correspondence has been so long interrupted, that I scarcely remember how the account stands, but in either case I am resolved not to remain long in arrear; and therefore acquaint you that, I went to Cambridge on Tuesday last with Porson, who has offered himself a candidate for the Greek Professorship. Dr. Postlethwaite had written a letter to apprize him of the vacancy some time before it happened; on Monday, if I am not mistaken; but he was told that some subscription either to the 39 Articles or the 36th Canon is required. He therefore gave his negative in his answer to Dr. P. who upon that acquainted him that his objections were unfounded, and likewise, that the day appointed for his examination is Tuesday, *if any one will have the courage to attempt it*, to use the Doctor's words. The offer looks very much like an atonement for past injuries, and I am afraid the Doctor would have us construe it into a compensation. Porson talked of writing to acquaint you with the issue of this business as soon as it is determined.

It has been not uncommon to compare Parr and Porson together as Greek scholars. Perhaps, in some niceties of metrical arrangement, Porson might be styled τῆς Ἑλλαδος πρόμαχον, and on conjectural criticism and verbal emendation he had so much more time to bestow, that he probably excelled Parr in skill and accomplishment. But with

these exceptions Parr's name may be fearlessly advanced as that of the superior scholar, " Ultimus ille ἐκ τῶν Μακαριτῶν, parco enim viventium nominibus, Anglorum ΠΛΕΙΑΔΙ — Magnanimi Heroes! En. Ricardus Bentleius—Ricardus Dawesius—Jeremias Marklandus—Joannes Taylorus—Jo. Toupius—Car. Burneius—Thomas Tyrwhittus—Ricardus Porsonus—Samuel Parrius *meo periculo.* Vide Dr. C. Burney's Tentamen De Metris.

Let me hope for forgiveness when I add, that in the " Imperfect outline of the life of R. Porson," by the Rev. Thos. Kidd, " the illustrious scholar who knows when to doubt and when to decide," is not once mentioned by the Professor; and

> That with him true criticism expired; and that the stars which adorn our hemisphere in his absence, shine with those rays which have been principally borrowed from him—*

is more true of Parr than of Porson.

The Rev. Thos. Kidd was praised and patronised by Dr. Parr as one of the living Pleiad of Greek scholars. I shall insert in the Appendix two of his letters, not without the hope of being enabled to insert some of Dr. Parr's to this eminent scholar.

Dr. Parr had been introduced to Mr. John Tweddell in the summer of 1790, at Cambridge, and became warmly interested in the advancement of this young scholar, who, no less by his great accomplishments than his amiable qualities, had won his favour. The first epistolary correspondence on the part of Mr. John Tweddell, was by sending an

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* Kidd, xvii.

Essay for a College Prize. This Essay, the subject of which was " Quid purè tranquillet," is published among the Prolusiones Juveniles of Tweddell, a work containing all his University and College Prizes. It does not fall within the compass of my duty to discuss the merit of these compositions; they have stamped the merit of Tweddell, as a young scholar, in a deep and lasting die; and coupled with his premature fate, and the locality of it, have associated his memory with some of the most interesting classical recollections of modern times. Tweddell was employed by Dr. Parr in the publication of the Sequel. I shall insert a few letters which will display the temper of his mind, and the difficulty of his task, and it will be seen that Mr. Tweddell was not quite so submissive and tame an editor as one or two of those who were employed before and after by Dr. Parr.

While Mr. Tweddell was occupied in the publication of the Sequel, French politics had risen to their highest phrenzy; and it does honour to the College of which Mr. Tweddell was a member, that they rewarded his great accomplishments with a Fellowship, notwithstanding his professed republican principles. He announces his election in the following letters to Dr. Parr, and the publication of his Prolusiones at the same time.

MY DEAR SIR, *Trin. Coll. Oct.* 1, 1792.

As I am sure you will feel more than curiosity to know the issue of this day's decision, I therefore have the pleasure to acquaint you, that I am made one of the people called Fellows.

This is very odd; for after the villainous election of last year I thought I had been deemed too reprobate to become one of so immaculate a society. An odder thing still is, that all parties are satisfied with the five men that are elected, as well ins as outs. But the oddest thing of all, and that is a very odd thing indeed, is, that I believe all parties *ought* to be satisfied. It is a just election altogether. More I have not to say to you just now, being far from well, and further, having to satisfy the doubts of some dozen of correspondents. You will, therefore, be so good as to excuse my brevity; the rather as brevity is said to be the soul of wit, which is a refinement of the understanding that you much admire. I beg compliments to Mrs. and Miss Parr. I hope you had a pleasant excursion into the north. Believe me, dear Sir, your ever obliged and faithful servant,

JOHN TWEDDELL.

MY DEAR SIR, *Trin. Coll. Cambridge, Nov.* 14, 1792.

This letter accompanies that collection of prize exercises of which you have been so good as to undertake the revision and correction. I have myself revised them, as you desired, with some care, though I fear you will still find in them more room for censure than for praise. There are many phrases, I doubt not, that are not legitimate, and such as, were I to write on the subjects now, I should not again adopt. At the same time, that I have found no little difficulty very often in detecting such inaccuracies, from the circumstance of my ears being familiarized with the former sound, and reconciled by habit to the old error. My last exercise of all, I have not written in the book, not having quite revised it; as soon as I have it shall follow the others. I have in different places marked at the side of the paper a *different reading* with the mark *al* prefixed, when I was doubtful which to prefer. You will in such cases reject *the one.* I repent of the subject Batavia Rediviva, not merely as being altogether bad, though I think it one of the worst I ever knew, but as it tempted me to pay a compliment in each ode to the Duke of Brunswick, with whose conduct in that very business I am not now so well pleased, and whose

subsequent generalship must, I think, extort from me a note on his name in the Latin ode, retracting my good wishes. I have written them in the order in which they obtained prizes, Greek, and Latin, and English promiscuously. I send at the same time some Greek and Latin Epigrams, which, if you approve them, shall appear in the way of Appendix. I have given up all intention of publishing the Dedications, as you desired me to do. Upon the whole, I think, when you shall see how much writing these exercises must have taken during this vacation, you will not think I have been quite idle. The truth is, that being conscious of numberless juvenilities in them, I wished them to make their appearance while they may considered as pardonable, and to have A. B. tacked to my name rather than A. M. I am confident you will agree with me in that opinion, and therefore, that you will have the goodness to revise them as soon as, consistently with your own convenience, you can. A short preface will be wanting, which I will not lose time about; and if any thing strikes you as requiring mention in it you will tell me. I am in hopes I may get the University to print it for me. This would be very convenient, as by that means the sale of the volume might chance to bring me in as much as would treat me with a view of Paris for a couple of summer months. It is at least worth while to try, and as soon as you shall be enabled to afford me any guess at the time when you shall finish the revision, I will return to Cambridge, and endeavour to coax the Syndics of the press. I have sent at the same time a blank paper book, *in which, rather than in the MS. itself, you will please to insert your corrections*, for which step many reasons will appear to you sufficiently obvious. I will thank you to be cautious whom you trust as an amanuensis in this business, as Malice might take it into her head to say unpleasant things, and to whisper that correction was the least, as was the last, assistance lent by you to these compositions. Do not let M. write for you. I shall page the two books to correspond, which you will observe.

To any one else I should now make many apologies for the trouble I was about to give them, by the correction of such unworthy effusions. But to you, at the very time that I inwardly feel such a necessity, most of all urgent, I forbear to

do so—because I am sure you could not but think me ungrateful should I distrust the sincerity of any offer you tender for my interest, after so many and so strong proofs of your unmerited kindness to me. It is, I hope and believe, equally needless for me to assure you how warmly I feel, and how sincerely I prize the repeated attentions and good offices which you have been pleased to shew to your ever obliged, and most faithful servant, JOHN TWEDDELL.

Pray do you write quicu*m*que or quicu*n*que?"

DEAR SIR, *Temple, Monday.*

Curtæ nescio quid semper abest rei: * Anglicè—You will never have done with ———; however, you say the last alteration shall be the last, and I will take care that it be made. And now, as I suppose I am freed from the danger of any more headaches occasioned to me by your amanuensis, let me request of you to give him a jobation upon his villainous penmanship.

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* The Sequel was answered by Mr. Cumberland, as he himself gives an account:—"As I have dealt extremely little in anonymous publications, I may as well confess myself in this place the author of a pamphlet entitled, '*Curtius rescued from the Gulph.*' I conceived that Dr. Parr had hit an unoffending gentleman too hard, by launching a huge fragment of Greek at his defenceless head. The subject was started, and the exterminating weapon produced at one of my friend Dilly's literary dinners: there were several gentlemen present better armed for the encounter than myself, but the lot fell upon me to turn out against Ajax. I made as good a fight as I could, and rummaged my ideas for quotations, which I crammed into my artillery as thick as grapeshot, and in mere sport fired them off against a rock invulnerable as the armour of Achilles. It was very well observed by my friend Mr. Dilly upon the profusion of quotations, which some writers affectedly make use of, that he knew a Presbyterian parson, who for eighteen-pence would furnish any pamphleteer with as many scraps of Greek and Latin as would pass him off for an accomplished classic."

To a nervous man he is as fatal as a physician. Small, indeed, are the hopes of life if you enter a correspondence with him. His abominable hieroglyphics shake you from top to toe. Pray, my good Sir, do labour to convince him that letters were designed to be the intelligible expression of ideas to convey distant meaning by legible characters, to be the faithful interpreters of thought between remote friends. But Martin, I perceive, has formed a directly opposite opinion. He thinks that they were framed for the purposes of perplexity. Why else is is he more obscure than the Prophetess of Cumæ? He differs, indeed, from the sybil in this respect, that her leaves were worth the pursuit, and rewarded the pains of him who found them. Martin does not commit his to the winds, knowing, that from their perfect inutility, his correspondent will perform that office himself. You, as a moderate man, ought not to employ Martin as your amanuensis. For why? His letters put one in mind of tumult and anarchy: there is sedition in every sentence; syllable has no longer any confidence in syllable, but dissolves its connection, as preferring an alliance with the succeeding word. A page of his epistle looks like the floor of a garden-house, covered with old and crooked nails which have been just released from a century's durance in a brick-wall. I cannot cast my eyes on his character without being religious. This is the only good effect I have derived from his writings: he brings into my mind the resurrection, and paints the tumultuous resuscitation of awakened men with a pencil of masterly confusion. I am fully convinced of one thing, either that he or his pen is intoxicated when he writes to me: for his letters seem to have borrowed the reel of wine, and stagger from one corner of the sheet to the other. They remind me of Lord Chatham's administration, lying together heads and points in one truckle-bed. And could you, notwithstanding, Sir, think that I was so infatuated with Martin's handwriting, that for the sake of perusing it one half hour earlier, I should all along prefer paying the price of double and treble, and quadruple postage to having it enclosed to Mr. Wilbraham? If it could answer any end of yours *better* by sending it to me than under cover to Mr. W. I should not have mentioned this. But really I receive it within half an hour of the same time. And as for

your writing on the outside of your letter *single sheet*, it answers no one purpose. They consider the *weight*, and charged me for the last 1s. 3d., and for the one before 2s. 6d. and in the same way various times of our correspondence lately. In future, therefore, I will be obliged to you to convey every *hundred weight of letters* in Martin's writing by separate packets to Mr. Wilbraham's. Though now, indeed, I apprehend I shall not receive many more. I really do, as you say, most heartily and unfeignedly rejoice, that our joint task is at an end. I had put out your amanuensis's apology, and now find that I must put it in again.

I differ with you materially as to the conduct of the Lords. As one of the young *Guelphs* has delivered his sentiments on that sanguinary traffic, I suppose they will not only not abolish the Slave Trade, but give it their express sanction. They are, in my mind, a sad set.

Nec pater Æneas, nec avunculus excitat Hector.

Burke, you know, said he would turn soldier in his old days, and turn his coat into a coat of mail, for the defence of the Constitution. Non tali auxilio, &c. "But I will confess, my suspicions did not carry me so far as to conjecture that this venerable champion will be in such mighty haste to come into the field, and serve in the quality of an *enfant perdu*, armed only with a pocket-pistol, before his great blunderbuss could be got ready, his old rusty breastplate scoured, and *his cracked head-piece* mended."—Smith's Pref. to the Bp. of S.'s Introduction.

Insani sanus nomen ferat.

Believe me, my dear Sir, your very much obliged and most sincere servant, J. Tweddell.

I will transcribe for your perusal what I have written, since what you saw before, of my exercise. You told me that Germany has some properties that might render it possible to introduce there, liberty—I say so—but I am not quite convinced of that, neither do I see how in Spain it could be effected but by convulsion. I have not mentioned Spain: ought I to notice any of the Asiatic Emperors? In what part of Cicero shall I find his reasoning on the jus æquabile?

I have received from Glasse a Sermon for you.

No. 2, Brick Court, Temple, London.

DEAR SIR, *Wednesday.*

Your letter surprises me exceedingly—you ought to have had the preface long ago. I corrected it a full week since. I have, in consequence, given the printer such a jobation this morning as he will not mightily relish. His negligence has been insufferable. The journey, I assure you, has not been more tedious to you than it has to me, nor, I believe, quite so much so. The mire which I have been dragged through by that fellow's stupidity, and the dull slow movement which he has constrained me to observe, would have wearied me most thoroughly, if I had not had much inducement to bear against all difficulties in the thought that I was serviceable to you. The books, which you desire to be given away, shall be given as you desire. For mine, I beg leave to thank you. I would certainly send one to Curtis, otherwise that sentence where you accuse him of not complying with the rules of authorship, inasmuch as he did not send you a copy of his *printed paper*, will be directed in part against yourself.

Lord Lauderdale's address is No. 2, Hanover-square. I dine with him to-morrow, and will give your compliments to him, and your thanks. I have never had time to mention to you a society to which I belong, and of which he is a member also, lately instituted; nor have I time now to say much of it. The object of it is two-fold. 1st, to obtain by all possible exertion, consistent with peace and good order, a full, free, and equal reputation of the people in Parliament. 2dly, the frequent exercise of the people's right to elect their representatives. The number of persons who first met to dine (in which number I was) was twenty-two. Last Friday, forty-seven. We shall be about one hundred and twenty next meeting; and these are to be considered as original members, being introduced by those who met first. Afterwards we elect by ballot. I will enumerate some of the members belonging to it: Mr. Grey, Lord Lauderdale, Lord Kinnaird, Mr. Sheridan (he came last time), Mr. Baker, Mr. Whitbread, Mr. Sawbridge, Mr. Lambton, Mr. Mackintosh, Mr. Christie, Mr. Tierney, Mr. Courtney, Mr. Francis, Mr. Goring, two Mr. Godfreys, Mich. Angelo Taylor, cum multis aliis. Mr. Grey nominated a committee

last week of eight persons, of whom I was one, to draw up regulations, &c. These were submitted to the society last Friday. When anything more of our plan is determined on I will tell it you. The object, I think, you will grant to be good. It is now become absolutely requisite to check the hitherto uncontrouled domination of Pitt; and if it is not effected by peaceable means, the eyes of the people will be directed to other means, from which it is the duty of every good man to keep them averted. It would not be amiss if you were to write to Chapman a letter yourself, saying, how repeatedly he has delayed the work, contrary to his promises, and how mysterious his conduct has been, particularly with regard to the preface. It is very necessary that he should not conceive that you are satisfied with his conduct, which, from beginning to end, I must acknowledge, is full of mystery. He tells me, first of all, that it should be printed in three weeks. We must allow for your own delays, and i. e. say it ought to have been out in six, which is double the number; instead of which he has had it in hand almost from Christmas to the present time. He has one day promised that I should have three sheets to correct, and two or three days after he sends me one; and, after all, he affects to say that he has been expeditious, and that all the delay has proceeded from you. He has added impertinence to his other faults. His conduct is in every light highly reproachable, and I beg you will tell him so. This will have the effect of bringing the book out before Parliament separates—nothing else will. I am, dear Sir, yours most truly,

JOHN TWEDDELL.

It has been seen in the review of the publication of the preface to Bellenden, that Mr. Burke was almost an idol of Parr—that he considered his talents and his learning far above those of any of his contemporaries, and that he lost no opportunity of offering him the incense of his praise. Mr. Burke's Letter on the French Revolution had scattered the seeds of discord through the nation. Public opinion, which before had been at variance,

now distinctly arranged itself under separate banners; and Mr. Burke became the leader of that party which opposed itself to reform or republicanism. Among the controversial writers on the other side, Mr. Mackintosh distinguished himself by his style and his eloquence; and I believe that his book first introduced him to the notice of Dr. Parr. Whensoever the introduction took place, I know it was continued with intimacy in the autumn of 1791, for I then met Mr. Mackintosh at Hatton, and, from my brother's house in Birmingham, accompanied him to the scenes of devastation occasioned by the riots, which had then scarcely ceased to smoke.

He had been enlisted in the cause of the Dissenters of Birmingham by the zeal of Dr. Parr, to whom he thus writes on the publication of the Sequel.

MY DEAR SIR, 31, *Charlotte-street, Portland-place, Thursday, May* 17, 1792.

The tumult of admiration, and the fervour of gratitude, leave me leisure and calmness only to say, on the subject of your Sequel, that I have read it, that its principles have always commanded my reverence, and its reasonings generally produced my conviction that, your eloquence has filled me with rapture, and your kindness melted me into tears. On the petty aids by which my influence or my exertions can hasten its popularity you will, I am sure, depend. I have already begun what you hinted at. Write me, my dear Sir, any other passage you particularly think proper for insertion. In the embarrassing variety of excellence, I have recourse to you for selection. On the subject of our Association for Reform I have not now time to enlarge. One thing I will say. I may have been deluded in my historical judgment of characters and events.—I may have stated principles too widely, and expressed sentiments too

warmly (it was easier to imitate my illustrious antagonist in these defects than in his inimitable excellencies); but whatever may have been my historical delusions, or my speculative excesses, my sentiments, and my conduct as a citizen, shall ever be those of a man who "has no choice to make between slavery and anarchy," and who *hates* the quiet of servitude only *a little more* than he *dreads* the convulsions of freedom. I am ready, with Sir Brook Boothby, to fulminate the civic excommunication, "Quem cædes civium quem bellum civile delectant, eum e numero hominum ejiciendum atque exterminandum puto." To confess a truth, many of my principles are not a little mitigated and qualified; but I must quit this subject for another of more immediate urgency.

Mr. Whitbread, a young gentleman of very vigorous talents, pure sentiments, and elevated spirit, has announced an inquiry into the Birmingham riots. Dundas, with the usual correctness of his morality, deprecated the inquiry on the principle that the impunity of crimes is the surest preservative of public quiet. Mr. Whitbread, however, unshaken by this new doctrine of moral wisdom, resolutely persists in his attempt to drag forth into broad day the instigators and accomplices of these infernal proceedings. Now I know, my dear Sir, that you are complete master of this subject; I know how powerfully you could state it; and I know that you will never permit your exertion in the cause of virtue, and of your country, to be considered as a favour done to any man. As such, therefore, I will not request it; but I think it would be an act worthy of you to put Mr. Whitbread in possession of the facts which you know, the conclusions which you have formed, and the sentiments which you have felt. A statement so powerful and luminous as yours must be, would, I am confident, inform his judgment, animate his genius, and, in every respect, enable him better to perform that sacred duty which he has so nobly undertaken, and which, I trust, he will so honestly and so ably fulfil. The time, my dear Sir, is pressing. His motion comes on next Monday. In a letter to me you could unbosom yourself with the most perfect safety. You could instruct me what was to be communicated, and what to be suppressed; what was to be unfolded, and what was only to

be hinted at. Let me entreat you, my dear Sir, not to disappoint me. I am sure if you do you will let slip an occasion of doing public good, and I am sure you would lament as much and as sincerely as Titus the loss of such a day Vale nostri memor. JAMES MACKINTOSH.

Dr. Parr's opinions of Mr. Mackintosh's talents, thus founded on personal observation, he has delivered in the fullest terms when speaking of his publications and his political character, and I shall quote them in his own words:

In Mackintosh, then, I see the sternness of a Republican without his acrimony, and the ardour of a Reformer without his impetuosity. His taste in morals, like that of Mr. Burke, is equally pure and delicate with his taste in literature. His mind is so comprehensive that generalities cease to be barren, and so vigorous that detail itself becomes interesting. He introduces every question with perspicuity, states it with precision, and pursues it with easy and unaffected method. Sometimes, perhaps, he may amuse his readers by excursions into paradox, but never bewilders them by flights into romance. His philosophy is far more just, and far more amiable than the philosophy of Paine, and his eloquence is only not equal to the eloquence of Mr. Burke. He is argumentative without sophistry, fervid without fury, profound without obscurity, and sublime without extravagance.

He afterwards often took occasion to eulogize "The Discourse on the study of the Law of Nations," as excellent and noble.

In the year 1795 some cause of discontent sprang up in the mind of Parr, in consequence of Mr. Mackintosh having imperfectly performed a commission for the service of Gerrald. A good deal of altercation took place between the friends, and was continued up to the time of Mr. Mackintosh's departure for India, when it was extremely aggravated

by the misrepresentation of Mr. Perry, and they continued aliens to each other after Sir James's return from India until 1820. In that year they met at Holland-house, and Dr. Parr, approaching Sir James Mackintosh, said, " Shall I address you as Jemmy, or Sir James ?" " Call me by that name (was the reply) which may best remind you of our ancient friendship."

As the papers had been circulated in many quarters containing Dr. Parr's accusations, he was induced to make the following declaration, which I transcribe from his own copy.

Before the departure of Sir James Mackintosh for Bombay, very warm words had passed between Sir James and myself upon the politics of the day, and our intercourse was less confidential and less kind than it used to be. Causes naturally connected with the gradual dissolution of intimate friendship prevented the above facts from being stated in their true light for many years. At last an interview which I had myself desired in the summer of 1820, led to another interview in the summer of 1821, which furnished an opportunity for the proper and full communication of these facts. This communication corresponds with the preceding statements which Sir James Mackintosh has laid before me lately, and instantly produced its natural effect. I felt, and therefore I declare myself really and entirely satisfied with the statement. I pronounce the honour of Sir James Mackintosh to be clear from any kind of objection whatsoever, and consequently, in the most express terms, lamented as a friend, and retracted as an honest man, any language of a different tendency, which imperfect information alone had formerly led me to use.

This is a correct copy of the Declaration, which Dr. Parr received from Sir James Mackintosh on Tuesday the 15th of January, 1822, which the Doctor had previously seen and approved; and which, upon Wednesday, 16th of January, 1822, he signed with his own name, and enclosed under a cover

directed to Sir James Mackintosh, Mardocks, near Ware, Herts.

Such, happily, was the reconciliation of Dr. Parr to Sir James Mackintosh, which continued unbroken to the end of Dr. Parr's life. The honour of Sir James Mackintosh has been vindicated from every accusation, except that of want of activity in the service of his old friend. But want of activity in such a cause is more than a fault, and Mr. Perry, by malicious insinuation, converted it into a crime. Happily he lived long enough to see his error, or to find out the truth. He recanted that first flippant declaration which set rumour afloat, and Dr. Parr signed it with a hand which for more than seventy years had only borne witness to the truth. A friendship then was renewed which will couple the names of Parr and Mackintosh to a late posterity; and in his will he has signed and sealed an unfading testimony of his respect and admiration in the following terms:

To Sir James Mackintosh, Member of Parliament, as a mark of my unfeigned respect for his deep researches in metaphysics, ethics, history, aud literature, for his splendid eloquence, and for his meritorious parliamentary exertions in mitigating the severities of our criminal code.

The Rev. Gilbert Wakefield was another of Parr's friends, who became a victim to his own indiscretion and the proscription of the Government, during the French war. He had introduced himself early in life to Parr's acquaintance as a young scholar seeking preferment, and talks in that letter

of Mr. Bennet* as their common friend. The correspondence with Mr. Beloe, long afterwards, unfolds Parr's kindness to him in influencing the editor of the British Critic to admit a favourable criticism of one of Wakefield's works into his Review, and the letter of Mr. Wakefield in the Appendix, and those of Mr. Beloe, which will be published hereafter, will luminously display the feelings of the parties towards each other. The letters from Dorchester Gaol refer to a part of Mr. Wakefield's life which can only be contemplated with sorrow; and that of Dr. Parr, on the death of Mr. Wakefield, will say all the rest which his friends can desire. Had Parr even only expressed the sentiment in the Remarks, it would have been enough to stamp his reputation, " a man whose virtue I so much love, and whose talents and learning I so highly admire."

Dr. Parr, to Mr. Arnold Wainwright.

SIR,

I was yesterday evening honoured with your letter; I read the contents of it with inexpressible anguish. I passed a comfortless night, and this morning I am scarcely able to thank you, as I ought to do, for your delicacy in averting the shock which I must have suffered, if intelligence so unexpected and so distressing had rushed upon me from the newspapers. In the happiness of the late Mr. Wakefield I always took a lively interest. Many are the inquiries I made about the state of his health and the course of his studies while he was at Dorchester. Great was my anxiety to see him after his sufferings were at

* Late Bishop of Cloyne.

an end; and when his name was announced to me at my lodgings in Cary-street, I seized his hand eagerly, I gazed stedfastly upon his countenance, I was charmed with the freshness of his spirits, and the apparent stoutness of his constitution.—I anticipated for him a succession of years after years, during which he might have smiled at the malice of his enemies, and enjoyed the sympathies of his friends; and at parting I received from him a book, which the circumstance of captivity under which it was written endeared to me, and which his death has now consecrated.

"Auget etiam molestiam quod magna sapientum civium bonorumque penuria, vir egregius conjunctissimusque mecum studiorum multorum societate, alienissimo reipublicæ tempore extinctus, et auctoritatis et doctrinæ suæ triste nobis desiderium reliquit, doleoque, quod non adversarium aut obtrectatorem laudium mearum, sed socium potius et consortem gloriosi laboris amisi."

The illustrious man who wrote nearly these words upon the loss of Hortensius, would not complain of any diminution in their truth or their dignity, if he could know that I had applied them to my own feelings on the decease of Gilbert Wakefield.

To the learning of that excellent person my understanding is indebted for much valuable information; but my heart acknowledges yet higher obligations to his virtuous example. I loved him unfeignedly; and though our opinions upon various subjects, both of criticism and theology were different, that difference never disturbed our quiet, or relaxed our mutual good will.

When we reflect upon the injury which literature has sustained from the numerous cessations, of his disappointment of his plans and labours, we may be tempted perhaps to exclaim: "O fallacem hominum spem fragilemque fortunam et inanes nostras contentiones; quæ in medio spatio falsè franguntur et corruunt, et ante in ipso cursu obruuntur quam portum conspicere potuerunt!"

Yet scarcely our regret for the loss of future instruction will be much allayed by the remembrance of that which he has already communicated to us, and of his merit in the communication. "Whatsoever the hand of Mr. Wakefield found to do,

he habitually and instinctively did with all his might;" he knew the value of every fleeting moment, he improved every talent which a gracious Providence had entrusted to him, and in the course of his whole life how few are the hours which he wasted in idleness, in folly, or even in those innocent amusements which "pass away like the trace of a cloud." In diligence, doubtless, he far surpassed any scholar with whom it is my lot to have been personally acquainted, and though his writings now and then carry with them some marks of extreme irritability, he was adorned, or I should rather say, he was distinguished by one excellence which every wise man will admire, and every good man will wish, at least, to emulate. That excellence was in truth a very rare one; for it consisted in the complete exemption of his soul from all the secret throbs, all the perfidious machinations, and all the mischievous meannesses of envy. They who undertake the office of writing his life will do well to record this singular amiable quality, and they will do so, not merely in justice to his memory, but for the edification of all readers in all classes, and for the humiliation, let me add, of every insolent pedant who would depreciate his attainments, and every vindictive partisan who would triumph over his infirmities. For my part, Sir, I shall ever think and ever speak of Mr. Wakefield as a very profound scholar, as a most honest man, and as a Christian who united knowledge with zeal, piety with benevolence, and the simplicity of a child with the fortitude of a martyr. After the deep and solemn impressions which his recent death has made upon my mind, I cannot but derive consolation from that lesson which has been taught me by one of the wisest among the sons of men: "The souls of the righteous are in the hands of God, and there shall no torment touch them. In the sight of the unwise they seem to die, and their departure is taken for misery, but they are in peace. Having been a little chastised they shall be greatly rewarded, for God proved them, and found them worthy for himself." I beg the favour of you to present my best respects and best wishes to Mrs. and the Miss Wakefields, together with my thanks for the attention which they have shown to me on this melancholy occasion. I shall be much obliged to you for informing me, at your leisure, in

what place my beloved friend is interred; and I anxiously hope to hear that he has left his family in comfortable circumstances. I have the honour to be, Sir, your respectful and obedient servant, S. PARR.

The Rev. George Henry Glasse, son of the Rev. Dr. Glasse, whose removal from Harrow to Greenford has been mentioned in the early part of these memoirs, opens his correspondence with Dr. Parr in the following terms:

REV. SIR, *Greenford, Feb.* 26, 1784.

I am at this moment so situated, that I am only able to acknowledge, with all possible gratitude, the honour of your letter. My life is not of consequence enough to merit such praises.

You will be pleased to be informed that the delight I received from seeing the Œdipus Tyrannus represented at Stanmore, gave me the first idea of a work which you are pleased so highly to approve, and which less liberal minds discountenance and condemn. Your letter shall be my comfort when the thoughts of the cruel treatment I have received hang heavy upon me.

I had designed an eternal adieu to the Grecian Muse; if ever I resume the study it is because I regard your approbation more than the censures of the Critical Review, or the indifference and coldness with which an attempt (*as* an attempt laudable) was received at Christ Church.

My father desires his most respectful compliments, and I am, and ever shall be, Sir, your most obliged and most devoted servant, GEORGE HENRY GLASSE.

This letter refers to Caractacus, then published, and rather unmercifully lashed, I believe, by Dr. Burney, as the Samson certainly was afterwards, in the Monthly Review. The letters of Mr. Glasse are full of asknowledgments of Dr. Parr's valuable assistance—his emendations of the Samson, and his alteration of some Latin composition.

As to the declaration (he says in one of them) that I will write no more in the Greek Drama, I hope it may be suffered to pass, as it is the fixed resolution of my soul. The burthen of a parish, the fatigue attending my engagements at Greenford, and the necessity I think myself under of studying divinity in the few hours I shall be able to call my own, are motives irresistible to this determination. But of your goodness to me, my dear and honoured patron, I will retain a grateful sense to the last moment of my existence; and I trust I shall ever preserve a share in your friendship and regard. I remain, your obliged and faithful servant,

Nov. 28, 1787. GEORGE HENRY GLASSE.

If I were to publish the whole of Mr. Glasse's letters to Dr. Parr from 1784 to 1807 inclusive, in which last year he sends him a Clerum for his B.D. degree, they would but exemplify the assistance which Dr. Parr was called upon to give, and did frequently contribute, to young scholars and ambitious authors. Perhaps not in the same quantity or in the same degree, for Mr. Glasse was certainly not one of the Pleiad of English Greek scholars of the day. This he acknowledges himself in the following letter, at least by implication; and I shall close the whole account with another letter, curious from its hopes, its fears, and its requests.

DEAR SIR, *Greenford, Dec.* 2, 1789.

Mr. Burney has had the candour to publish my letter entire, with a postscript very flattering to me. Having the praise to which I felt myself entitled, I will sit down under the censure I cannot but feel I deserved. I hope you will not disapprove any thing I have said in my address to the Reviewer. The ground was not tenable; and I endeavoured to make as handsome a retreat as I could.

I have had a most pleasing letter from Mr. Twining; he still

asserts that I undertook more than could be performed, but adds that, I performed more than could be expected.

On this, and on every other occasion, my gratitude to you is justly due. I *glory* in the support and assistance you gave me; I rejoiced in the opportunity of proclaiming it to the world. Had White done as much ———; but I will pester you no more on that subject, nor detain you longer than while I return you my best thanks for your last obliging favour, and testify my regret at not being able to obey your commands, touching some detestable and despicable paragraphs which never were in my possession, but which, at the houses of some of my neighbours, passed under my indignant eye.

That your health may be fully restored, and that those public honours to which you are entitled may be added to those of less profit, but more value, which you enjoy in the hearts of your friends, is the earnest wish and prayer of, dear Sir, your ever grateful and obliged servant, GEORGE HENRY GLASSE.

REV. AND DEAR SIR, *Jan.* 20, 1789.

I do assure you I have not been inattentive to the subject of your last interesting letter, and I should sooner have answered it, had I not expected from my friends, to whom I had stated the particulars, a greater number of subscriptions than the inclosed bill amounts to. However, if I hear from any more of them, I will, with great pleasure, send a second remittance.

My father desires his best compliments to you, and cheerfully contributes his donation, on the account you gave of the urgent necessity of the case.

Your kind acceptance of the effusions of my well-meant zeal, demands my best thanks. I do most sincerely rejoice in your approaching honours, and I ought to have something to comfort me, for I lose all my hopes of advancement with the present Administration. These, you will say, were at best but slight ones. I allow it. And the experience of thirty years, in the case of my father, should reconcile me to disappointment.

But waving all personal considerations, I really feel so much for the situation of the King, and the afflictions of his family, particularly his wife, that the happiness of my life is affected by it.

You, dear Sir, love sincerity too well to be displeased with the above honest declaration of my sentiments. But heartily shall I take pleasure in *your* promotion, and if such a thing should be, that merit like yours should, for once, be exalted to its deserved honours, I hope you will not think it too great presumption in me to solicit the office of one of your chaplains. I should esteem it my pride and pleasure to receive a scarf from your hands; and my present patron (an Irish Peer) would, I know, very readily relinquish me,

facilis jactura patroni.

But to return from these pleasing visions to matters which demand more immediate consideration.

I have had a little correspondence with the *doers* of the Analytical Review.

I wrote to the Editor, to say that I wished for an hour's confidential conversation with him, and subscribed my name and place of abode. In a few days I received an answer from Johnson, the bookseller, No. 72, St. Paul's Church-yard, stating, that to preserve the Review as independent as possible, the editor wished to be concealed; but that any communications made to him (Johnson) would be faithfully transmitted, &c. &c. I wrote in reply, that my late Greek Translation of Samson Agonistes had been reviewed by one of the first scholars in the kingdom. That the critique was not published, and that the writer, "who was not accustomed to seek, but to be sought by, the dispensers of literary fame," might possibly, by proper application through me, be induced to favour them with his remarks.

I enclose you Johnson's second answer.

* * * * * * *

You, dear Sir, are not in the least committed, otherwise than by the pointedness of the above description. And, therefore, if it is not your pleasure, that your observations should find a place in the Analytical Review, here let the business rest. If otherwise, be pleased to favour me with your sentiments. Should you be inclined to comply with my ardent wish on the occasion, it may perhaps be best to wait till after the Monthly Review has appeared, for which I wait with a trembling impatience that savours little of my honoured patron's intrepidity. Your ever obliged and most faithful servant, G. H. Glasse.

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